

Monday February 5 1996

Table of international flight routes and destinations including Abu Dhabi, Athens, Amsterdam, etc.

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

46.467

The New Labour Establishment

Special series starts today in G2

Rosie Boycott: the queen of men's magazines

G2 pages 7/9

The limits of desire

G2 Women pages 10/11

Lyell in the firing line

Cabinet ready for Scott sacrifice

Richard Norton-Taylor and Michael White

THE Cabinet is preparing to sacrifice the Attorney-General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, in order to cling on to William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury...



Mr Waldegrave yesterday protested his innocence following further leaks of Sir Richard Scott's draft report...



Open-air mass... Bosnian Catholics from opposite sides of the conflict gather in a gutted church on the confrontation line in the Sarajevo suburb of Stup yesterday...

Fraud inquiry clouds rail's big day

Company misses out as private passenger train services start

MINISTERS last night concealed their embarrassment over the latest setback to their rail privatisation plans...

They were discovered during an internal audit carried out by BR on behalf of the putative Association of Train Operating Companies...

This was confirmed by rail management sources who said the alleged fraud had only been discovered last Thursday.

School launches Islam-only RE

THE controversy over religious education in the Muslim community deepened yesterday when it emerged that a Birmingham school had gone against government guidelines...

Firewoman dies in burning store

F EARS are growing over safety in the fire service after a woman firefighter died tackling a blaze in a Bristol superstore yesterday.

Advertisement for ACTIONAID featuring a photo of a child and text about diarrhoea and child sponsorship.

Moscow sketch

Spy who went into the cold



James Meek

HE TURNED from the howling Russian winter outside and walked towards his visitor. His footsteps echoed on the flagstones. There was no hint of a smile in his eyes, grey as Siberian granite, or on his face, etched with the killings he had witnessed. So many murders. So many spies. And now, at last, he had James Bond at his mercy. "I'm the projectionist," he said at the Rossiya cinema where the Moscow premiere of Goldeneye was shown. "God knows how many times I've seen that film. It's for children, basically."

"Of course, we understand that it was just artificial scenery," said Nikolai Yegorov, professor of law at St Petersburg University, who had the focused expression of a man trying to rid himself of something stuck between his teeth. "It was very beautifully shot and produced, but as far as the theme was concerned it just wasn't interesting." Andrei, a computer student from Moscow State University, was amused by Goldeneye's leaden attempts to woo the net herd market. In perfect English, he explained his reasons for coming. "A long time ago we saw a lot of films about James Bond with Sean Connery, Timothy Dalton, Roger Moore. I just wanted to find out whether the director was celebrating the same traditions — no sex, just kisses, the same image of James Bond."

'SOS' letter to Commonwealth tells of inhumane conditions endured by Saro-Wiwa counterparts Jailed Ogonis plead for help

NINETEEN Ogonis facing trial and the gallows for allegedly participating in the same murders for which Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other men were hanged in November have smuggled a letter out of prison pleading for the Commonwealth to secure their freedom. The appeal, headed "SOS" and signed by 19 men, is addressed to a Commonwealth ministerial delegation appointed to urge Nigeria's military regime to renounce democracy and respect human rights.

"We are hereby calling on you all through your offices and humaneness, come quickly to our aid and save our lives — cause our freedom, for we have suffered a lot," says the letter, handwritten on a page torn from an exercise book. The Ogonis are held in harsh conditions at Port Harcourt prison. They are split between severely overcrowded cells, each with dozens of inmates and two buckets — one for urine, the other for faeces. All sleep on the floor. They are let out for a few minutes each morning in a neighbouring field. Exercise is on Wednesdays. Family visits are once a month, but are more frequent if bribes are paid.

Payment is also expected for food. Malnourishment and disease are common among the prison population. "We are grossly underfed coupled with the complete lack of medical care. As a result we are becoming malnourished and anemic. These conditions have contributed to the death of one of us," the letter said. Clement Tushina died last August from untreated diabetes, according to Amnesty International. The mechanic, aged 40, was taken briefly to hospital and chained to the bed, but he was returned to prison where he died. The 19 wrote: "We have been dumped into detention without any hope of a fair trial, thus causing our families to suffer untold hardships. Most of us have lost our jobs as a result, while many have also lost one dear relation or the other due to hunger and strife."

Copies of the letter are expected to be delivered this week to the committee of foreign ministers from Ghana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand and Zimbabwe formed after Saro-Wiwa's execution in November prompted Nigeria's suspension from the Commonwealth. The delegation was expected in Nigeria last month, but its mission is in question since the regime has refused to meet it.

The 19 Ogonis are accused of joining a mob which beat four Ogoni traditional leaders to death nearly two years ago. Most have been in detention since May 1994, but they have not been told when hearings will begin before the same quasi-military tribunal that sent Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogonis to the gallows. The trial had been expected to start last month but a high court judge deferred it at least until mid-February pending a challenge to the legality of tribunals that bypass civil courts and appeals. The government has appointed legal aid lawyers to represent the Ogonis. But supporters say human rights attorneys will step in to act

for the men free of charge. Yet, in written answers to questions smuggled into the prison, the Ogonis say that after the Saro-Wiwa trial and swift execution they have lit the hope of a just hearing. "We will most probably be convicted because the chairman of the Ogoni civil disturbance tribunal said the case against us 'is not an ordinary murder case'. So we know there is more to it than meets the eye. The government is settling an old score." Lawyers say the men's best hope, albeit a slim one, is that the regime will not risk further international condemnation while it is seeking to rebuild bridges, and will put the trial on hold indefinitely.

Dodgy start to privatisation on Waterloo line

Keith Harper finds one passenger unimpressed by the new commercial era of rail travel



Bicycling baronet Sir George Young meets bicycling newspaper deliverer Philip Bedford, one of the first privatised passengers

THE first customer off Britain's first privatised passenger train was a fare dodger. Vigilant staff discovered him at Waterloo early yesterday trying to slip through the barrier without a ticket. At any other time he might have succeeded. But fatally he chose the 5.10am Twickenham to Waterloo train on which eight other passengers, the Transport Secretary, Sir George Young, and the media, had crowded into one carriage of an eight-coach train to celebrate the event.

The unnamed man boarded at Clapham but fell into the arms of an impressive row of gold braid and official hats waiting at Waterloo for Sir George to arrive on platform 7. He was immediately issued with a £10 fine and given 21 days to pay. "It may be a special occasion but we've got a job to do," volunteered one of the peak caps. A vigorous debate among rail folk on the 5.10 had preceded the departure. Could it justly claim to be the first privatised service? British Rail's official handover to the private sector took place at 2am. A strong challenge was mounted by the 1.50am Fishguard to Paddington service.

It commenced its extraordinary journey as a bus to Cardiff because of the inevitable engineering work snarling up Sunday rail travel. Brascuely, the Twickenham party gave the Fishguard service the thumbs down. It clearly breached the 2am rule by starting out too early — besides, Sir George had sent his No 3, John Watts, to cover the other event. Twickenham station opened at 4.30am. John Bird, a member of the Franch Line Society, from Farnham, Oxfordshire, was the first person to buy a ticket. Sir George signed it. "I do hope rail privatisation works, but who can tell?" asked Mr Bird.

Of the brigade there were little evidence. The nearest person to fit the description was Philip Bedford, clad in green. He boarded the train pushing a bike, en route for Clacton. He described himself as a part-time newspaper deliverer from East Sheen. He confessed he was not a rail enthusiast and agreed Clacton was a very unusual place to visit at this time of the year. "I'm going for the pebbles and the cheap video games," he declared.

Review

Back in the USA ... for good

Caroline Sullivan

HERE'S a ravens-leaving-the-Tower quality about the demise of the Ramones, who did their final British gig on Saturday. The New York foursome have been thrashing out the same tune (singular) for 22 years and, until they announced their retirement, it had seemed as if they would go on for at least another 22. Arguably, punk might never have happened had it not been for Ma Ramone's sons, who parlayed their taste for horror comics, game shows, and simplistic garage rock into the prototypical punk band. Their invention — musty leather, frayed jeans and hurtling two-chord songs that lasted all of two minutes — pre-dated the Sex Pistols by a year, as did their attitude. Numbers like Teenage Lobotomy asserted their right to be morose, though the irony bypassed many of the groups which copied them. But music progressed, the Morones didn't. They're equally immune to the physical ravages of time — or so it looked from the middle of an overflowing Academy. If Joey, Johnny, Marky, and CJ have aged at all, it's hidden under their bushels of lank hair. It's especially hard to tell with Joey, who must be 45 but has never been seen without his purple sunglasses.

Ramoneworld is so detached from the real world that it is odd they want to quit. Having decided, however, they are going in some style. The gig had "event" writ large, with touts getting £35 a ticket and a T-shirt queue longer than any I've seen. Just before the show began, their USA Official Seal backdrop portently descended, and with it a sense that a link to the past was being cut. Strangely, the men on stage evinced no such sentimentality. Going by their closed-up faces, this could have been just another of the 2,208 gigs they've played since 1974. So if Joey's voice was even more adoniedly deadpan than usual on I Wanna Be Sedated, it was excusable on the grounds he'd sung it more times than a sane man should. Luckily, the simplicity of Ramones' songs means it is nearly impossible to mess them up. Observing them churning through some 30 songs in 90 minutes made one thing clear: if you've got a dogged enough drummer and a stupidly compelling chorus, the rest takes care of itself. Joey hardly needed to sing; the beer-laden, serial ear-piercing "kids" shouted every word back at him. Thus it went on and on, from Pinhead through Pet Sematary. "Adios amigos" Joey said untearfully as they exited. Farewell, then, Ramones. And thanks for 20 years of inspired idiosyncrasy. Missing you already. Looking forward to a reunion tour soon.

Rail countdown

- 4 Feb: First two franchises to South West Trains and Great Western running yesterday. London, Tilbury and Southend line suspended for fraud inquiries.
Late summer: Final bids invited for next four franchises, Gatwick Express, InterCity East Coast, Midland Main Line and Network South Central. Up and running by late summer.
Summer: Bids invited for a further two franchises, South East Trains and Chiltern.
Next year: Prequalification process under way for another two franchises, South Wales and West, and Cardiff to be operating by the beginning of next year.
April '97: The remaining 13 franchises, including the West Coast Main line from London to Glasgow to be sold off before April next year if the Government can do it.

Fraud inquiry clouds big day for railways

continued from page 1 Public Prosecutions to see if criminal charges could be brought. "The Government cannot suggest this is a temporary hiccup. Enterprise Rail, which runs LTS, has a corporate responsibility for this matter." He added: "Not even the Tories could hand over a rail franchise to a company which is under a cloud of allegations of systematic fraud against

another operator. London Underground. This goes to the heart of rail privatisation. In a fragmented railway, every company will have a vested interest in maximising its own revenue by fair means or foul without regard to the passengers." The Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, played down the setback, saying it showed how sophisticated the system of internal controls was. "It was discovered very

quickly. It was brought to public attention. Decisions were properly taken and the matter can now be looked at in a proper and orderly way. "That is a triumph for the system — that it detected what could be an irregularity," he told BBC's Breakfast With Frost. Labour and the Liberal Democrats will attempt to embarrass ministers further in a Commons debate on Wednesday.

How alleged scam worked

THE alleged scam to defraud London Underground revolves around "all zone travellers" sold by the train operating companies, writes Keith Harper. The tickets were issued from Fenchurch Street station for use on the London, Tilbury and Southend line. As the dominant user of this station, LTS takes 78 per cent of ticket revenue and London Underground 22 per cent.

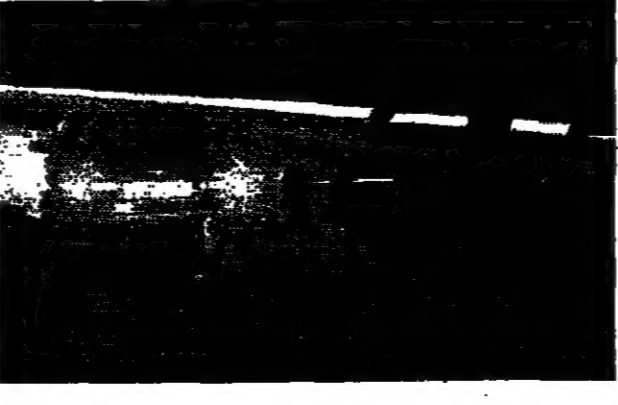
But the tickets were not in fact sold at Fenchurch Street. They were transferred to Upminster, where LTS also shares operations with LU, and sold there. At Upminster, LU takes 48 per cent of the revenue. It is believed LU lost out on £6,000 over six weeks, with LTS benefiting from the higher proportion of the revenue from Fenchurch Street ticket "sales".

The tickets do not bear any station name, and the discrepancy was discovered in a random internal audit carried out by BR on behalf of the Association of Train Operating Companies. Railway sources said last night that it could happen in other parts of the network, but the system would always expose fraudulent behaviour. One other incident has already been discovered by the association, but this was not fraud. It involved particular marketing of tickets by one of its members.

From just £30 the RAC covers you in any car

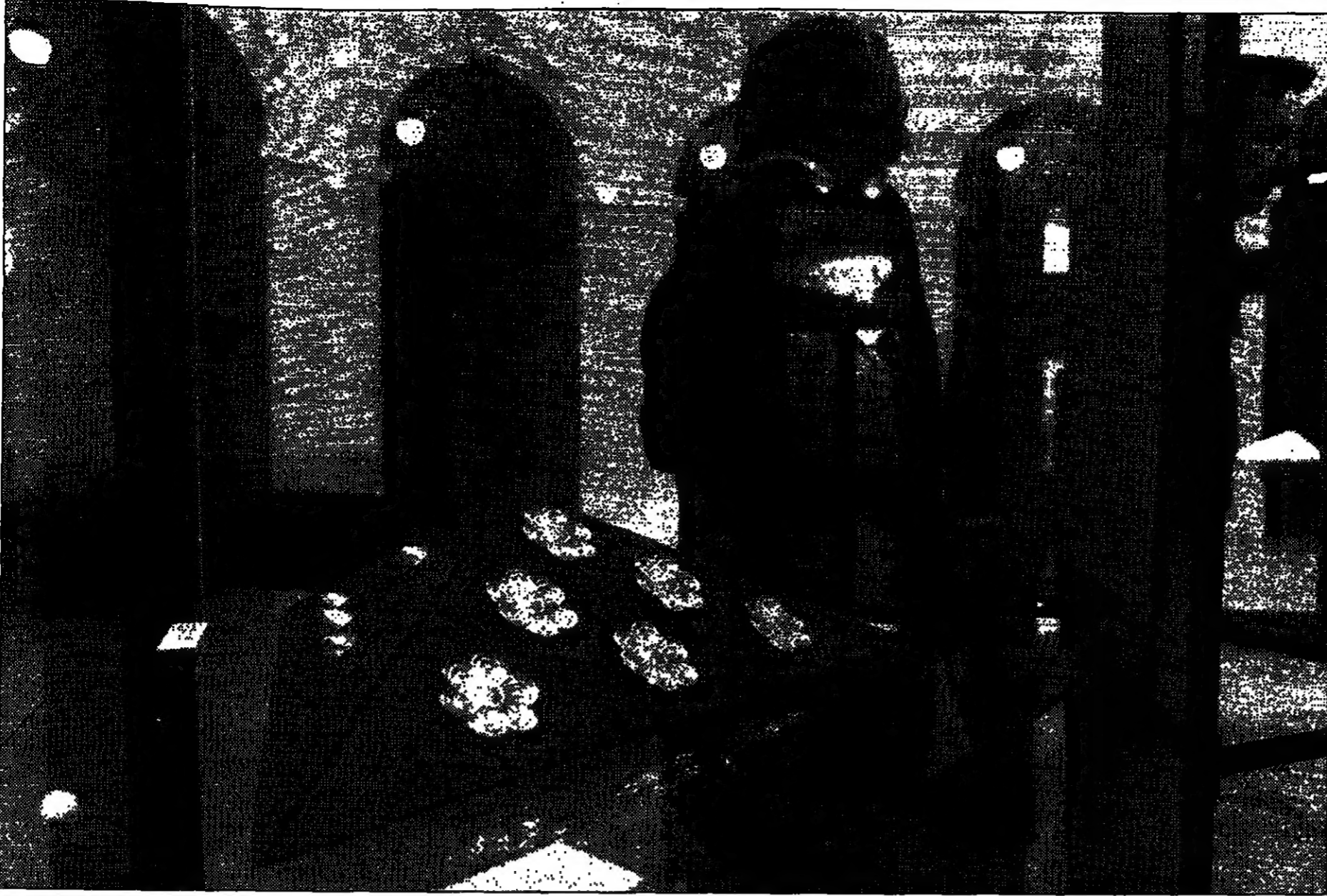
From just £30 for a full 12 months' cover, no one offers you more security on the road than the RAC. RAC Rescue covers you, not your car. So now you can call on us whenever you need fast roadside assistance, even when you're simply a passenger in someone else's car. Roadside Rescue. In more than 8 out of 10 cases, our patrols can fix cars on the spot. Otherwise, they'll tow you to a nearby garage, free of charge. Accident Service. A replacement car, free legal advice, plus we'll deal with your insurers.

- Theft and Vandalism Cover. If your car's stolen or can't be driven because of vandalism, we'll remove it to a nearby garage or secure area. Battery Assist. A new battery on the spot. Whatever service you use, callouts and our labour are free — you only pay for parts. You can also tailor your cover to meet your needs, with the option to take out Joint and Family Cover or add our 'At Home' service. Don't wait until you break down. Find out how to join the RAC today.



PHONE FREE TODAY ON 0800 029 029 OR INTERNET http://www.rac.co.uk/ AND QUOTE SS1804/3/XX FREE YES - I want to join the RAC. Please tell me how I can join from just £30: Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms Address Postcode Telephone Send to: RAC Rescue, FREEPOST, Bristol BS38 7AU. (No stamp needed.) ST0004/SS1823/3/XX

Handwritten Arabic text: مکتبہ اسلامیہ



Lost and found... Jewellery from the Aidonia hoard of Mycenaean treasures repatriated to Greece last night from the Russell Senate office in Washington DC PHOTOGRAPH: AMY TOWNSHIP

Greece wins back priceless piece of history

One success is reviving claims on 'Elgin's loot', writes Helena Smith in Athens

GREECE is poised to renew its campaign to retrieve the Elgin Marbles, after successfully having a hoard of priceless Mycenaean treasures repatriated from the United States. This small piece of Greek history arrived back last night after years of "blood curdling" adventure, according to Greece's new culture minister, Stavros Benos.

"Elgin's loot" that is uppermost in his mind. "The return of these wonderful pieces will most certainly strengthen our demand for the Parthenon marbles," Mr Benos told the Guardian, in his first interview with a British newspaper. "It shows that Melina's dream, which everyone thought utopian, can be realised. We will get the marbles back from the British Museum."



Next in line: An Elgin marble in the British Museum

Grey-haired and mustachioed, the mild-mannered Mr Benos has none of Mercouri's fiery passion or glamour. But like his friend and predecessor, he has made the repatriation of the 347-ft-long, fifth-century frieze, metopes and figures a personal mission. Alides said that, unlike his immediate predecessor, the composer Thimo Mikrotoulas, Mr Benos would not be crowded into submission by Virginia Bottomley saying "you naughty boy" every

But as Athens this month signs a contract with Italian designers to build the long-awaited Acropolis Museum, Greek officials say the time is ripe to strike again. The prime minister, Costas Simitis, has made the construction of the 80-billion drachma museum, funded by the European Union, a public works priority. "When it is built the British will no longer be able to say that we have nowhere to put them," snapped Mr Benos. "It will be the death of their last real argument."

Greek optimism has been further raised by the Labour Party's support for the return of the marbles. Labour MP's wishing to reopen the debate are expected to feature prominently in a Channel 4 documentary on the subject later this spring.

Straw rules out packing the Lords

Patrick Wintour and Michael White

LABOUR will today promise not to abuse its powers of patronage by packing the House of Lords with supporters to guarantee a majority for its constitutional reforms - including abolition of the voting rights of hereditary peers.

Paddy Ashdown has also used that phrase, but the Labour leader's commitment to a referendum on proportional representation (PR), which he will repeat during the John Smith memorial lecture on Wednesday, falls short of his Liberal Democrat counterpart's demand that he should come off the fence. Mr Blair is expected to call this week for maximum consultation on the issue, and the shadow foreign secretary, Robin Cook, a supporter of PR, has had private talks with the Liberal Democrat President Robert Maclean.

"We are acutely aware of the need to change not just what government does, but also the way it does it," Mr Straw says. "That means creating consensus for our reform of the Lords, and the need to be free of the charge that we are packing the Chamber, or abusing our party power."

"We need to change not just what government does, but also the way it does it" Cranborne, whose family has sat there for 400 years. In an other move to lessen anger among influential peers, Mr Straw promised that it would not be part of Labour's strategy to stop hereditary peers using their historic titles, even if they were barred from the Lords. His likened the position to France where the post-revolutionary aristocracy still use their titles.

Tory MP scorns Howard plans

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor THE Home Secretary's constitutional clash with senior judges worsened last night when one of his former ministers backed the judiciary against his plan for more US-style minimum sentences.

Smears feared in Ashdown case

Geoffrey Gibbs LIBERAL Democrats fear their leader, Paddy Ashdown, will become the object of a smear campaign when he appears as a prosecution witness in a court case in his Yeovil constituency this week.

... and another good thing it's free

message parlour was closed by the council because of planning irregularities. Its owner was later jailed for six months for living off immoral earnings. Three men, aged 18, 19, and 21, were arrested on Friday in a Yeovil suburb in connection with the attack on Mr Ashdown's H-registered Vauxhall Senator. They have been released on police bail pending further investigations.

The search for names, discreet but urgent, is already on. Former chief whip, Derek Foster, is looking at the structures of power and trawling for talent among MPs, regional officials and what remains of Labour's pre-1979 Great and Good Michael White on the New Labour Establishment

Advertisement for First Direct bank. Features the slogan "it's free" and a coupon for requesting a First Direct card. Includes contact information: 0800 24 24 24.

Rightwing hopeful faces tabloid storm over pornography as previous judgments (below) come back to haunt him



Adrian Rogers: claims he did not watch blue movie



John Lloyd: haunted by his South African past

Labour delight as blue movie row gives star role to Tory

Edward Pilkington on battle for Exeter

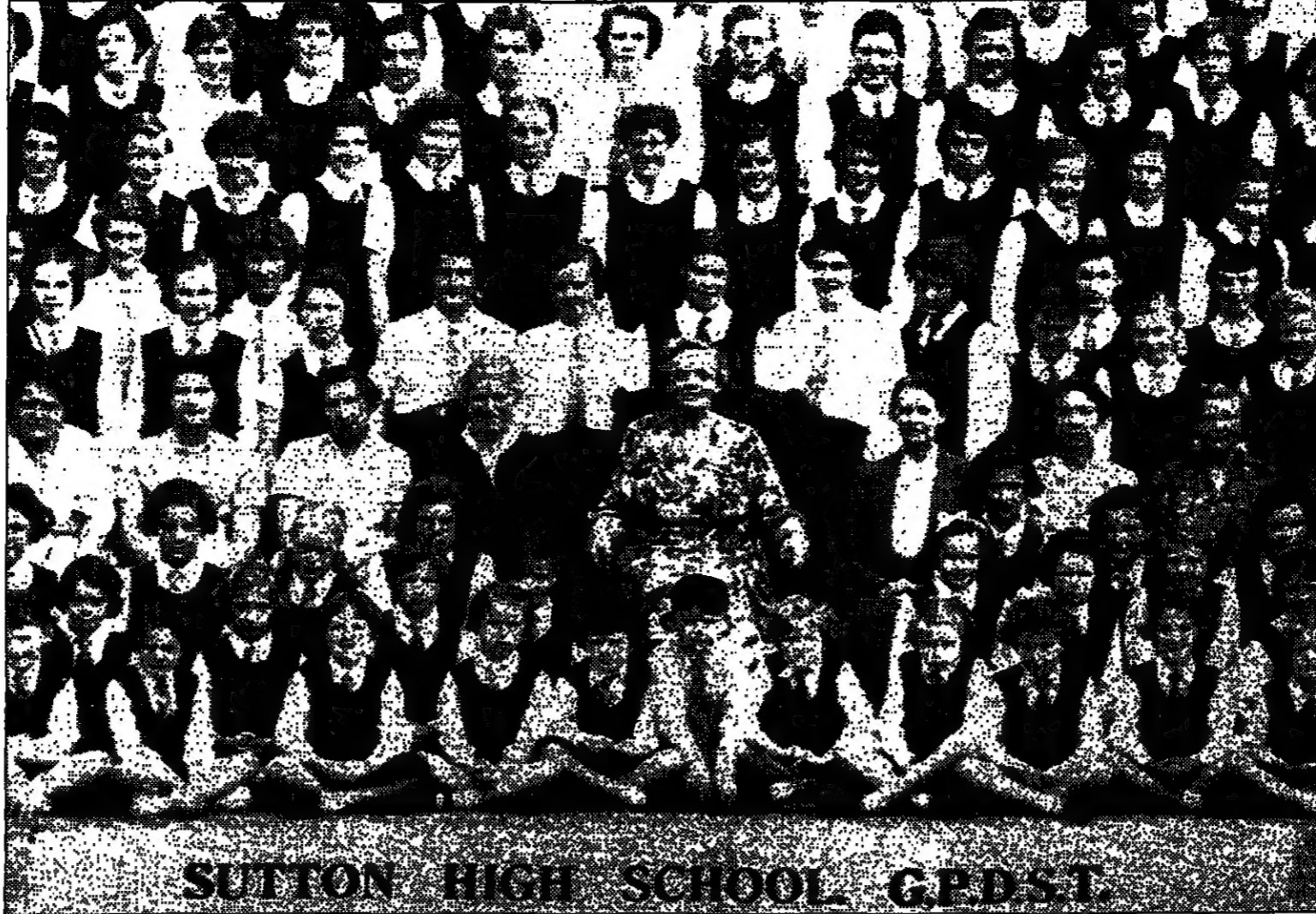
OF ALL 659 parliamentary constituencies to be contested at the next general election, the bizarre political battle raging in Exeter, Devon, must surely take the biscuit.

Come the election the two main parties will be slugging it out over who succeeds Sir John Hannan, the retiring Tory incumbent who holds the city's seat with a majority of just 3,045. Controversy appears to follow both candi-

dates like a faithful but infuriating dog.

First to be embroiled in scandal was the Labour candidate, John Lloyd, accused of failing to save the life of a fellow anti-apartheid campaigner hanged for planting a bomb in South Africa in 1964.

Now his opponent, the rightwing Tory candidate, has been engulfed in a tabloid storm that is likely to embarrass his party and could severely dent his moral credibility. Adrian Rogers, aged 48,



Front row, centre, the future Conservative Party parliamentary candidate for Exeter, Adrian Rogers, the only boy at Sutton High School for Girls

founder of the Conservative Family Campaign and an anti-pornography crusader, has admitted hosting a blue movie in front of 40 people in his front room.

"Tory doc in blue film shock," said yesterday's News of the World, disclosing that the movie was shown in 1977 when Dr Rogers was a senior house officer in Exeter's main hospital. The film was brought to his home by an anaesthetist and projected against his living room wall.

Yesterday Dr Rogers attempted to play down accusations that he was a pornographer and hypocrite by claiming he did not watch the film.

"I stood outside the room working the lights. I was so embarrassed. I never sat there goggle-eyed."

The blue movie claim is the latest in a stream of controversies concerning the Tory candidate. He was recently revealed to have spent his schooldays in the company of

800 girls — as the only male at Sutton High for Girls in Surrey, an experience that may have helped shape his forthrightly anti-feminist views.

Dr Rogers was back in the headlines last week when Exeter police scrambled a helicopter to chase a bicycle stolen from his home. Over the weekend he courted further controversy by lambasting Cornwall health authority for planning to employ gay counsellors to advise men fre-

quenting "cruising" areas. "Everyone is now aware of the need for safe sex and telling people from behind bushes or in toilets is not going to do any good," he said.

Senior Tory politicians are known to have issued warnings to the local Conservative association that Dr Rogers was a potential electoral liability.

But they went ahead and picked him as their candidate none the less. "We knew he was going to have a high pro-

file and that his background was a potential embarrassment. But we decided he has the best chance of winning the seat," a spokesman for the association said.

Meanwhile, Mr Lloyd is delighted the spotlight has swung, temporarily perhaps, away from him and on to his opponent. "The really objectionable thing about him is that Rogers admits to having had a moral weakness himself yet is intolerant of it in other people."

On former Tory minister, Tim Yao, who had an illegitimate child:
Immoral politicians exhibit hypocrisy and dishonesty and are potentially untrustworthy. We need political leaders who know how to control their appetites

On single mothers:
It is time for a bit more shame and stigma

On woman MPs:
A woman who wants to be an MP effectively ditches her husband and orphans her children. That's not a natural rightwing Tory inclination

On his old headmistress at Sutton High for Girls:
She had presence. As the only boy I felt I had to stand up to her

On homosexuality:
We care for homosexuals as people, because it is part of being a Christian, but we condemn totally what they do. It is a sterile, Godforsaken, disease-ridden occupation

Health chief on £13,000 course while staff jobs are at risk

Owen Bowcott

DECISION to spend £13,000 on a training course in France to improve the management skills of a health executive while her staff are facing redundancy came under fierce attack yesterday for being insensitive and profligate.

At the centre of the row was Barbara Stocking, aged 44, the £30,000-a-year chief execu-

tive of the Anglia and Oxford regional health authority who is attending a four-week course at a prestigious management school in Fontainebleau, near Paris.

The authority insists that Mrs Stocking is a senior manager responsible for a substantial budget and that no comparable training course was available in Britain.

Ian Barber, eastern region head of the health union, Unison, yesterday said £13,000

was a "staggering amount of money" to spend on one person. It was what an experienced NHS nurse would earn in a year.

Arne Campbell, Labour MP for Cambridge, whose party has attacked the Government's increased emphasis on management within the NHS, also deplored the expense.

Last month, the Anglia and Oxford authority, which is in the process of cutting its management structure from 450 to

130 posts, revealed that it had approved a £30,000 "fact finding" tour of Australia for 14 top executives.

The foreign trips come at a time when regional health authorities face abolition and their management function is being absorbed in a new health service structure. Health authorities and NHS trusts in the region are being asked to make "efficiency savings" which involve redundancies.

Hunt starts for new editor to return the sheen to New Statesman

Owen Bowcott

THE hunt for a new editor to revive the debt-laden New Statesman has begun in anticipation of its purchase this week by one of Labour's wealthiest MPs.

Geoffrey Robinson, who represents Coventry North West, is expected to invest more than a £1 million if his offer is accepted by the administrator appointed to sell

the left-leaning publication. The courts will ratify the arrival of the new proprietor to replace former majority shareholder, Philip Jeffrey, a lifelong socialist who made his money from the Fada DIY business. He is understood to have agreed to the sale.

Mr Robinson, aged 57, who ran Jaguar Cars in the 1970s, owns a Midlands engineering company. Married to an Italian opera singer, he lives in a mansion near Godalming,

Surrey, built by the architect Sir Edward Lutyens.

Among the candidates for editor are thought to be Ian Hargreaves, former editor of the Independent; Richard Scott, editor of the now defunct Today; Martin Jacques, once of Marxism Today; and Francis Wheen, a Guardian columnist.

In line with previous proprietors, Mr Robinson has plans for the New Statesman to regain political influence

in the Labour movement. It was founded in 1913 by Sidney and Beatrice Webb, and circulation — now 20,000 — reached 100,000 by mid-century.

Insiders yesterday suggested Mr Robinson's approach had so far been welcome. "His relationship with the Labour Party could be problematic," observed one. "But he has said he wants a critically constructive engagement with Labour."

Children stay FREE & eat FREE!

It's the half-term break that's a whole lot of family fun.

This half-term take the family break that's a treat for all. Across the length and breadth of the UK there's a Forte Posthouse waiting to welcome you. And the value for money just couldn't be better. On a half-term break under 13's not only stay free and eat free, they also get their very own room too - while 13 to 16 year olds also stay free in their own room, and you just pay for their meals as taken.

There is a superb choice of 31 destinations - from city centres to the heart of the country - with 17 hotels also offering the free use of their indoor swimming pool. So book now for a half-term the whole family will really enjoy.

3 NIGHTS £99 per adult	3 NIGHTS £99 per adult	3 NIGHTS £109 per adult	3 NIGHTS PER ADULT
Accrington*	Gloucester	Canterbury/Ashford	Brentwood** £123
Barnsley*	Hull	Cardiff (City Centre)	Cambridge** £132
Belfast	Leicester	Chichester*	Havant** £120
Birmingham*	Manchester	Doner	Sheff-Sig** £111
Canterbury	Nottingham*	Haydock*	
Coventry*	Preston	Hemel Hempstead*	
Coventry	South Shields*	Leeds/Selby*	
D-It*	Torquay	Southampton/Exeter**	
Glasgow*	Warrington	Swindon*	* Denotes swimming pool

HALF-TERM BREAKS
3 NIGHTS DINNER, BED & BREAKFAST FROM **£99** PER ADULT

TO BOOK CALL US, FOR THE PRICE OF A LOCAL CALL, ON **0345 40 40 40**
QUOTING REFERENCE P593 OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT

FORTE Posthouse

Terms & Conditions: 1. All bookings are subject to availability with a limited number of rooms available at these promotional rates. 2. Half-term breaks must be taken and completed between 9 and 25 February 1996 inclusive. 3. Offer only valid at participating hotels and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. 4. On half-term breaks, up to 2 children under 16 stay free in their own room when accompanied by up to 2 paying adults, subject to availability of a suitable room. 5. All prices include VAT.

Leon. Ferr. 18. rrp £14.99. **£12.99** with free "The Making of Leon" book*.

Buy the video and get a free book in your sights.

Leon is no longer for hire. That's because he's yours for keeps for just £12.99 at WHSmith, along with a free "The Making of Leon" book.

There's more to entertain you at WHSMITH.

مكتبة القرآن

Homosexual rights opponents warn of church split

Cathedral to host gay celebration

Madeleine Bunting
Religious Affairs Editor

SOUTHWARK Cathedral has promised to hold a service of thanksgiving for the 20th anniversary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement.

Reform, the evangelical General Synod grouping, promised a protest campaign over the unanimous decision of the south London cathedral's council to hold the provocative, high-profile event, which will be attended by 1,000 lesbian and gay Christians and their sympathisers on November 16.

It is the first time that a cathedral has agreed to such a link-up with the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, which has kept pressing the Church of England hierarchy to reconsider its ban on ordaining practising homosexuals.

Before the General Synod meeting next week, the movement is running an advertisement listing 300 prominent Anglican churchmen world-

wide who have signed a declaration of support for its campaign, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa and Archbishop Richard Holloway of Scotland.

The movement's increasingly confrontational tactics are aimed at forcing a debate in General Synod on homosexual rights; a private member's motion has already gathered many signatures and could be scheduled for the summer session.

"Southwark is going into this with their eyes open, but they felt it was important to open their doors to us, said the Rev Richard Kirker, the LGC's secretary. "We were very surprised by their co-operation and enthusiasm. But it is not going to be a rally."

But the Rev Phillip Hackling, Reform's chairman, said pushing the issue of homosexual rights could only split the Church — a split which "would make that provoked by the ordination of women pale in comparison".

He added: "If the Church is seen to be ordaining homosexuals, we could no longer accept the authority of the hi-

erarchy. In all conscience, we couldn't support the Church financially." He claims that his views are backed by a majority of the laity.

The Very Rev Colin Slee, provost of Southwark Cathedral and instrumental in arranging the service, said in a statement yesterday: "The principle objective will be of thanksgiving for a greater degree of understanding of homosexual relationships in the last 20 years, with intercessions for guidance and wisdom in the future."

The LGC is a legitimate organisation representing people who were "seeking to follow a Christian way of life and who thankfully acknowledge their homosexuality". Eight years ago the movement was evicted from church premises by the then Bishop of London, Graham Leonard.

Southwark is seen as a bastion of the homosexual Christian movement. Last week the Rev Jeffrey John called for the ordination of practising homosexuals. He topped the Southwark clergy poll in last year's synod elections.



Enterprising spirit... Peter Simpkin, whose proposed store offers hope to the Church, and the Rev Neil Dear at St Gregory's in Rendlesham, Suffolk. PHOTOGRAPH FRANK MARTIN

Parishes turn to commerce to pay vicar

Alan Watkins on a roadside shop plan which offers hope to rural churches

A GROUP of five rural parishes faced with the prospect of finding £27,000 a year to provide a salary and pension for their vicar have approved a plan to raise the money by opening a roadside shop staffed by volunteers.

If the scheme at Eyke, Suffolk, bears fruit, the Reverend Neil Dear should find that a goodly portion of his £13,500 a year stipend is funded through the sale of old clothes, garden ornaments and "household clearance items".

The move into commerce has been forced by new rules expected to come into operation during 1997. In the past, village congregations paid a percentage quota towards the cost of running a parish but the recent disastrous investment losses incurred by the Church Commissioners, coupled with demands to provide pensions for an increasing number of retired clergy, has forced them to withdraw the subsidies to dioceses.

For the united benefice of Eyke with Rendlesham, Tunstall, Wixenden and Bromswell, the demand will spell disaster unless the plan of church warden Peter Simpkin succeeds.

A recent meeting of the parochial church council approved the scheme after Mr Simpkin, a 63-year-old retired furniture dealer, offered to stock the shop from

his own resources without involving the church in any capital outlay.

He said yesterday: "I believe that the business would be self-financing and go a long way to meeting the demands upon us."

"Parishes all over Britain are going to be confronted with financial obligations that most of them will be unable to meet. There is no way that our parish could raise the sums of money required through normal functions such as the summer fete or Christmas bazaar."

A parishioner has donated a redundant milking parlour just off the A1152 which he says would provide the ideal site for Mr Simpkin's enterprise, provided the planning application is approved.

Mr Simpkin said the church shop would be run on the same lines as the business he operated for 33 years. He said: "I shall be looking for household clearance items, garden ornaments, bric-a-brac and all those mysterious items that people sometimes buy without knowing why."

Parishioners who cannot afford to donate items will be offered the chance to sell them through the shop with the church retaining a percentage as commission.

In addition to the stipend the five parishes, which have a total population of just over 3,000, will also have to make provision for the vicar's pension and meet the rectory's running costs.

Mr Dear said: "If it means the church is able to maintain a presence in the rural community I do not think how it is achieved is that important."

Refugee groups fight benefit cuts in court

Alan Travis
Home Affairs Editor

A NEW High Court challenge to the withdrawal of welfare benefits for most asylum seekers is to be mounted today as voluntary agencies begin turning away people.

The Refugee Council says the new rules coming into effect today will mean it is no longer able to find temporary accommodation for the 200 newly-arrived asylum seekers who seek its help every day. "When they were entitled to housing benefit we could always be sure of finding them some hostel or bed and breakfast accommodation," said a spokeswoman Sue Kershaw.

Now there is nowhere we can find them except the night shelters that are already packed to the gills."

The Refugee Council believes the decision to with-

draw benefits from 70 per cent of asylum seekers to save £200 million a year will have a hidden side-effect in further curtailing their rights to claim refugee status. They can only make a claim if they have a fixed address for the Home Office to send its correspondence.

The High Court legal challenge is being mounted today by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI). It claims the decision of the Social Security Secretary, Peter Lilley, to withdraw housing benefit, income support and other benefits from asylum seekers who fail to make an application immediately on arrival in Britain is ultra vires. The regulations also withdraw benefits from those appealing against an initial rejection of their claims.

The application for judicial review says Mr Lilley has no power to use social security regulations to curtail asylum

seekers' rights. It argues those who are homeless and without means will be physically and mentally incapable of presenting evidence to support their claims or appeals.

The judicial challenge argues the decision will breach Britain's international obligations under the United Nations Conventions on Refugees and on the Rights of the Child.

Claude Moraes of the JCWI said: "These are the most brutal and shocking proposals we have seen in the 20 years of our history. We have a duty to continue the fight in the courts. This measure will mean we will see individual tragedies on a daily basis."

Mr Lilley says the regulations are necessary to ensure Britain remains a safe haven for those genuinely fleeing persecution, to speed up the processing of asylum claims, and to discourage unfounded claims from economic migrants.

BBC boss claims BSkyB sports 'monopoly' penalises poor and elderly

Andrew Cull
Media Correspondent

THE battle over the televising of top sports events intensified yesterday as a BBC executive accused Sky Sports of being a monopoly.

Will Wyatt, managing director of BBC network television, said Rupert Murdoch's satellite operation was denying those on lower incomes access to major events.

The attack came on the eve of tomorrow's Lords vote on an amendment to bar Sky Sports from exclusive access to Britain's eight so-called sporting crown jewels.

Lord Thomson of Monifieth, a Liberal Democrat and former chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, writing in today's Media Guardian, said: "It is perfectly possible to reconcile the conflicting interests in broadcast sport, if only the

Government had had the will to put the public interest before its free-market dogmas and face up finally to Rupert Murdoch."

Other peers backing the amendment, including Lord Howell, a former Labour sports minister, and ex-Tory minister Lord Peyton, have condemned the Government for rushing out a discussion document four days before the bill's committee stage.

Lord Thomson said Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, was preparing to backslide over maintaining universal access to top events. "A divided Cabinet has once again panicked under pressure. Unable to agree they have gone for a delay on an issue where all the facts are already known."

On BBC's Breakfast with Frost, Mr Wyatt said: "Sky Sports... is a monopoly as we speak and thus there is nowhere else for the ordinary

viewer to go. I think a lot of poorer people and older people will not see these great things if something is not protected."

But David Elstein, BSkyB's head of programming, said rights to the "crown jewels" events — including Wimbledon, the Grand National, World Cup and Olympics — were tied up by terrestrial broadcasters at least until 2000.

Media Guardian, page 7

Don't throw asylum seekers out on the streets

From today, under new regulations introduced by the government, many legitimate asylum seekers, legally in this country, will be deprived of all welfare benefits. Over the coming months as many as 2500 people per month will find themselves destitute. Charities, churches and others are preparing soup kitchens and night shelters to accommodate people who are only in this country because they are fleeing persecution.

At the same time the Asylum and Immigration Bill, currently being debated in Parliament, will further restrict the right to asylum in this country, undermine civil liberties and increase racial discrimination.

The Bill's provisions include:

- excluding asylum seekers from a 'white list' of countries;
- removing asylum seekers to a so-called 'safe' third country if they have passed through such a designated country before arriving here;
- reducing the right of oral and in-country appeal for many asylum-seekers;
- introducing a new legal category of 'immigrant', which would include many long-term legal residents in this country, who would not automatically have the same rights as other citizens;
- further powers for police and immigration officials;
- making employers criminally liable for the immigration status of their employees which will result in greater race discrimination in employment.

Oppose the Asylum and Immigration Bill. This Bill can be defeated.

We call upon the government to abandon this legislation and restore welfare benefits to all asylum-seekers legitimately in this country.

National Demonstration
Stop the Asylum and Immigration Bill
Saturday
24th February
Assemble: 11am Embankment (Temple Tube), London
Called by the CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION BILL
Supported by the TUC

Defend Asylum Rights — No Pass Laws Here
Write to your MP Join the Campaign
Appeal for financial support
I enclose my donation towards the work of the Campaign Against the Asylum and Immigration Bill of £ _____
Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Please send me an affiliation form for the Campaign (Return to Campaign Against the Asylum and Immigration Bill, 23 Commercial St, London E1. Tel: 0171 247 9907. Cheques payable to CAMAB).

Yeltsin's challenger courts economic forum • Confrontation looms if alliance expands • Mine workers return

Red means go for foreign business

Larry Elliott in Davos

THE Russian Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov promised a sceptical West last night that a return to the order and authority of the Soviet era would end Russia's economic chaos and allow foreign business to thrive.

The early frontrunner to succeed Boris Yeltsin as president in June sought to provide reassurance that his victory would create the stability vital to fight crime and rebuild the economy.

In a two-day charm offensive at the World Economic Forum, he told businessmen and politicians that Russia was riddled with crime and corruption, dominated by the mafia and had no proper legal structure with which to attract foreign investment.

"No serious business is going to invest when the rules are changed every three or four months. There is no guarantee that they will make a profit or, if they do, that they will be able to get it out of the country. The only taxes they pay are mafia taxes."

Mr Zyuganov, who clashed repeatedly at Davos with another presidential hopeful, the liberal Grigor Yavlinsky, said the pace of reform should be slowed and order restored.

"Our party is full of people who can create the sort of authoritarian organisation which can enable business to be done," he said.

With the International Monetary Fund preparing to lend Russia \$9 billion (£6 billion) to underpin reforms, Mr Zyuganov was at pains to present himself as a moderate reformer in the tradition of Western social democrats.

He said all Western economies had some form of economic regulation and it was

just a question of where the line was drawn. "State ownership, part-ownership and private ownership all have their price to pay," he added.

Mr Zyuganov said more people had died at the hands of organised crime in Russia in 1995 than in the whole of the Afghanistan war, and it was time for the state to reassert control over mafia gangs.

"The old Communist Party was not a party as such, but a power structure. But now all our navigation systems — economic, political and social — have been broken."

The communist leader's avowed intention to slow the pace of economic reform, coupled with a more hawkish approach to foreign and security policy, has raised fears in the West that Mr Zyuganov will revert to the old Soviet style if he becomes president.

Denying that he intended to turn the clock back, Mr Zyuganov said that under the present economic reform programme, Russia was attracting only 0.5 per cent of foreign inward investment. "These are crumbs. That figure could be raised tenfold, provided in-

vestors are sure of the rules of the game.

"I have known times when all debts were paid on time and no foreign investors wondered whether they were going to be paid. We intend to create conditions in which confidence can flourish. I want a policy that is both more forward looking and more temperate."

Mr Yavlinsky criticised Mr Zyuganov's economic programme, arguing that reform needed to be accelerated and that businesses should be allowed to go bankrupt. He said money could be found to pay for unemployment and retraining if the government ended the war in Chechnya, cut spending on state bureaucracy, stopped the flight of capital abroad and prevented tax evasion by state monopolies.

Both men said they believed that the prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, would be the next casualty of Mr Yeltsin's purge, after the recent sacking of the deputy prime minister, Anatoli Chubais.

Mr Yavlinsky argues that the IMF should deny Russia its loan until troops are withdrawn from Chechnya.

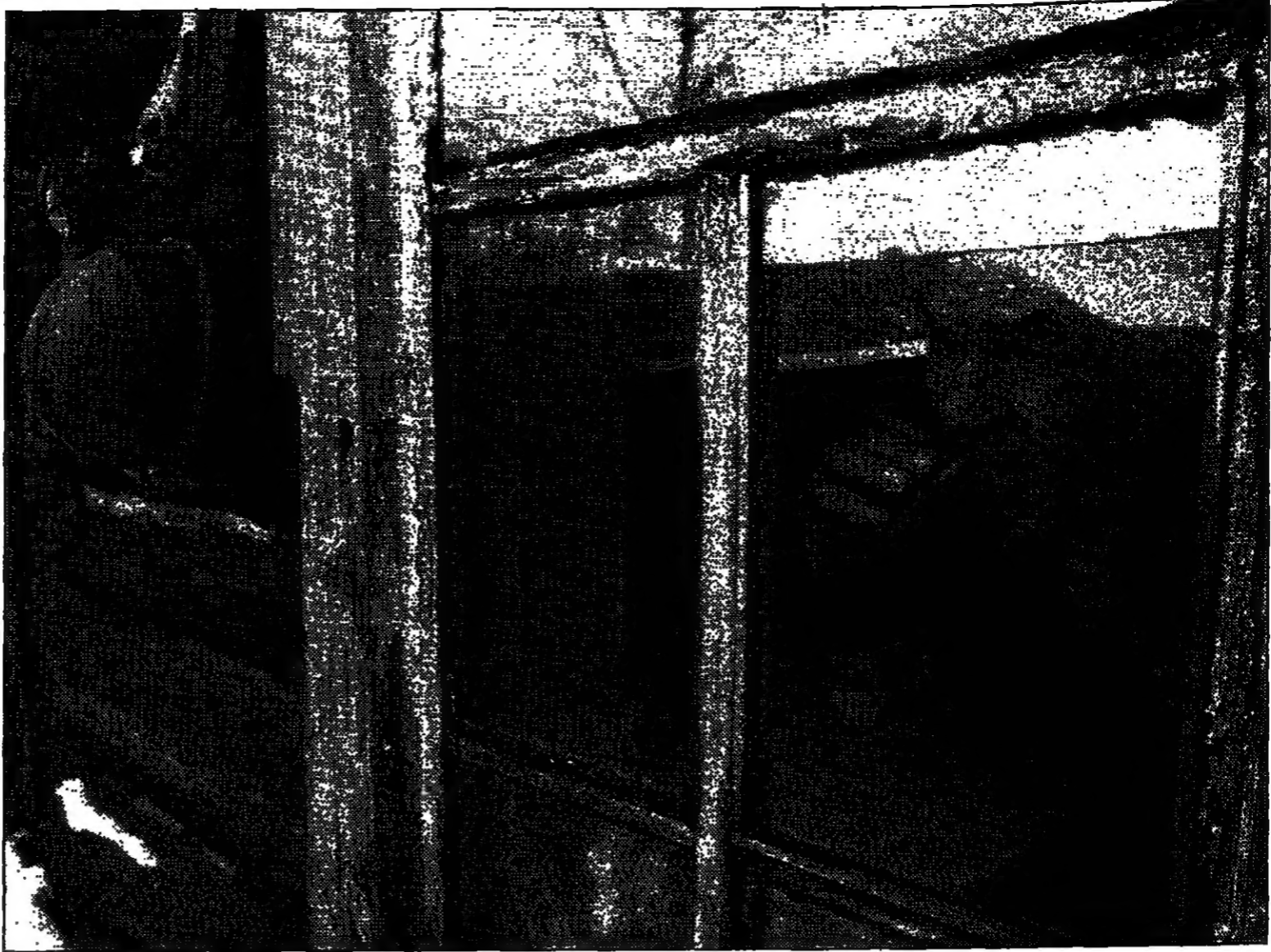
Mr Zyuganov said that withdrawing the troops would result in a massive influx of weapons to Europe via the northern Caucasus, leading to instability.

While agreeing that there should be no attempt to restore the old borders of the Soviet Union, he added that 30 million Russians living outside the Federation were denied self-determination.

Asked about the possible inclusion of former Warsaw Pact countries such as Poland in Nato, Mr Zyuganov warned of the dangers of "moving the goalposts" and returning to the old "confrontational logic".



Gennady Zyuganov: pledges to tackle organised crime



Room with no view... An idle miner at the Prokopyevsk mine in southern Russia looks out at the silent pit

PHOTOGRAPH: SERGEI KANFUSIN

Miners survive on potatoes and promises

THE miners gathered in small, discontented clumps around the dubbed cartoon on the television at the front of the hall, and a large chess set at the back. Lenin stared down at them, as did the socialist realist murals of happy miners, their Communist slogans mocking the scene.

One slogan read: "Labour and only labour must be the way of measuring a man's worth, his social prestige and his material well-being." The 880 miners of Dubovskaya had laboured all night, for three months without pay, and now they were on strike.

"For a foreigner like you it must seem very strange. We are not striking for more money. We are striking because we have not been paid at all," said the deputy engineer, Valery Mazurev.

Four years ago he lost all his savings, 60,000 roubles, everything he had earned in 15 grueling years in Vorkuta, the harshest mining region in the Arctic Circle.

"I had saved the equivalent of five Ladas. Then Yegor Gaidar came along, raised

Russian union leaders called off their pit strike on Saturday after the government promised to pay them £83m in back pay and provide a £1.5bn subsidy for the industry.

David Hearst finds the men of Dubovskaya bitter but resigned

prices in January 1992, inflation soared and my savings turned to paper."

Neither management nor workers had been paid and there was no one to rail against, except the government; the whole region was grinding to a standstill.

Mr Mazurev said: "The authorities said you the West, call this financial stabilisation. Our government is fighting inflation by not paying our salaries and at the same time our president issues one decree after another saying the salaries have to be paid. We don't need bits of paper. We need one law and we need it to be fulfilled."

Most miners live in small wooden cottages, heated by the coal they produce, and surviving off last summer's hard allotment labour. They are up to their eyes in debt. When they get paid, a faceworker can expect only

about 700,000 roubles, or £100 a month. They have sold their cars and exist off their extended families and the spirit which binds a mining community together.

Andrei, a mining engineer, has a one-year-old son. "We survive off my wife's parents. They have a little malthousing, a goat, hens. They produce potatoes, beet, carrots and we live off these."

No one in the hall spoke much. The village boss, Volodya Cherkasov, a former miner from Dubovskaya, walked in. He said: "My friend Kolya came to me in the administration and he was extremely angry. I asked Kolya: 'What do you want — coffee, tea, biscuits?' Kolya swore at me and said: 'Look at you drinking coffee with biscuits and look what I take to eat underground.'"

"He opens his paper and he showed me two pieces of black bread, two boiled potatoes, two salted cucumbers. 'This is what I have been eating for the last two years,' I felt so ashamed."

Mr Cherkasov has left the independent miners' union, which helped Boris Yeltsin come to power.

The old Communist union is back in power, but the disillusionment with all political parties is deep.

Djamila Khalilova, a miner's wife, said: "We don't believe in Yeltsin or Zyuganov [the leader of the Communist Party]. You can only believe in yourself and wish yourself good health."

Her husband, Irfan, part of a community of Tatar miners, recalls: "Before to be a miner was something. Each month you brought home a wad of money. You retired 10 years earlier than every-

body else and the pension was very high — 120, 160, even 175 roubles. Today this means nothing, but then the rouble was a rouble. To be a miner today means being a non-person. We don't exist any more."

Anatoli Diodok, the mine's acting director, sat with the men. He had not been paid either and felt equally bitter. He said: "We need the rule of law in Russia, and normal people don't understand why the West is supporting our president and our government, who are now considered to be very doubtful people. When everything gets out of control, as it has done now, Russians start to ask themselves why is the West so interested in supporting Yeltsin?"

The mood was angry, mistrustful, resentful. His all around were being closed one by one, and the community was dying.

"You see we don't have anywhere to go. There's nowhere else in Russia with home and work to provide," one miner said. "You tell that to your British miners. I remember collecting for them."

West alarmed as Russia hardens stance on Nato

Ian Traynor in Munich

RUSSIA'S hardening resistance to the expansion of Nato dominated the weekend's military science conference in Munich attended by senior Nato officials, United States and European politicians and military experts.

The overall tone of the debate at the annual two-day seminar was one of gloom and anxiety.

The Russian participant, the deputy defence minister Andrei Kokoshin, triggered alarm and aggressive verbal sparring that recalled cold-war days by circulating a paper denouncing the proposed Nato expansion.

His paper argued that plans to extend the alliance eastwards into Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic were aimed at delivering "the final blow to the cold-war enemy". He said the expansion would increase hostility in Europe and usher in a new era of "dangerous confrontation" between Nato and Russia.

To Western outrage, he claimed that any Nato advance eastwards would breach commitments made when the former Soviet Union agreed to German

reunification in 1990, as well as violating nuclear non-proliferation agreements and jeopardising arms control accords.

Mr Kokoshin's paper was supposed to be the text of his speech. After observing the storm of Western indignation aroused by the paper, he made a much gentler speech which nonetheless still rejected Nato's plans.

"Kokoshin's remarks sent shivers through my countrymen's bones," the former Polish foreign minister, Andrzej Olechowski, said.

The US defence secretary, William Perry, said Russia would "come to understand that Nato's enlargement means enlarging a zone of security and stability that is very much in Russia's interest, not a threat to Russia."

Mr Perry said Nato enlargement was "inevitable" but added that the "process of outreach and enlargement" had to be "gradual and deliberate".

Nato's new secretary-general, Javier Solana of Spain, said the immediate priority was to "deepen" rather than "widen" the alliance.

But Mr Kokoshin angrily stressed that Moscow saw Nato as a predator preying on lucrative arms markets where

the Soviet military machine once enjoyed a monopoly.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, while conceding that the east European countries had a legitimate claim to Nato membership, emphasised that the security interests of Russia and Ukraine had to be foremost considerations.

For geographical reasons, Germany is among the keenest advocates of Nato expansion, but German analysts concluded that the movement towards a bigger Nato was being slowed down.

Some Western delegates shared Russian warnings of a new age of confrontation, which in their view made the case for Nato's move into the old Warsaw Pact all the more urgent.

The former director of the CIA, James Woolsey, predicted that by the summer Russia would have a "communist or fascist president".

He accused Moscow of violating arms control agreements and blamed the expansion of Nato on not admitting post-communist countries of eastern Europe more quickly.

"The world we might have had three or four years ago is looking less likely," he said. "Nato expansion of this kind has to be foremost in our minds."

One small homecoming brings a flicker to the Bosnian darkness

Julian Borger in Breza meets an elderly couple who have made the leap of faith needed to recross the front lines

ON a cold January morning Vlado and Stefanka Subotic decided to do something extraordinary. After four years of wartime exile, with barely a word to their neighbours, the elderly Bosnian Serb couple packed their bags and went home.

To do so they had to cross Bosnia's ethnic front lines and face their former neighbours in the mainly-Muslim town of Breza. They are among the handful of Bosnians who have made the leap of faith.

A fortnight ago they unpacked their bags and sat in their son's tiny living room, wondering how their former Muslim and Croat friends would react to their sudden reappearance. They had not seen them since April 1992 when they fled to Ujjas on Serb rebel-held territory.

They said they fled because they were afraid of being murdered by Muslim extremists. In the eyes of many Bosnians, however, the Serbs who crossed into rebel territory were siding with a murderous aggressor.

A powerful homing instinct drew the Subotics and five other Serbs back, days after the front lines were demilitarised under the Dayton peace agreement. Mr Subotic conceded that they had not given much thought to what Breza would think of them. Now they sat and waited in ominous silence.

It lasted an afternoon. In the evening there was a knock on the door. It was the neighbours, come to share brandy and coffee. The ice was broken. Over the next 24 hours a procession of Muslim and Croat well-wishers came

to the apartment to exchange wartime anecdotes and reminiscence about the days before the fighting began.

"Ordinary people never understood why the war was being fought. For ordinary people it is possible to go back to the way things were," Mr Subotic said.

Mr Subotic ended 43 months of fighting; the Subotic's homecoming represents a minor miracle of tolerance. There is at least a



At present these hopeful signs are tiny exceptions. More than 2 million Bosnians were driven from their homes during the war. There is little sign yet that a significant number are prepared to risk returning to territory controlled by former enemies.

Even Mr Subotic admitted that his return would not have been possible if he had been younger and served with the rebel army.

Mirko Kostura, one of the Subotic's Muslim neighbours, said that not everyone in Breza would be as welcoming.

"For people who didn't lose anyone in the war, it is possible to accept people coming back. For those people who

returned to Breza with the Subotics, two have already gone back to Ujjas, after finding it impossible to pick up where they left off. One woman arrived to find that her Muslim husband had taken a mistress. She left the next day.

Elsewhere in Bosnia displaced families displaced are trying to arrange sightseeing tours across the former front lines to see the state of their old homes before deciding on their future.

In most cases they find their homes destroyed or occupied by refugees. Many of those refugees would also have to cross the lines to return to their own homes, which are also likely to be occupied, and so on.

Such problems have hampered the return of refugees in the Muslim-Croat Federation. Two years after it was formed, only a few hundred families have returned to their original homes. As part of the Dayton agreement, two Muslim and two Croat towns were supposed to exchange refugee populations in an effort to restore their pre-war ethnic mix.

Only one local authority has so far complied. The other three are blocking the programme, for local political reasons, aid workers suspect. With elections due later this year, nationalist politicians throughout Bosnia fear the restoration of an ethnically diverse electorate.

"All these mayors got into power because of the war. Now, if the people who were there before the war start coming back, they will lose their grip on power," a UN refugee agency official said.

The odds are weighed heavily against Bosnia ever regaining its multi-ethnic identity. The division created by the war has been deepened, and is poorly funded and ill-equipped to combat the influence of separatist militants.

Of the five Serbs who

Bildt mission comes under fire from US congressmen

Ian Traynor in Munich and Julian Borger in Sarajevo

THE obituaries are already being written for the civilian wing of the Nato mission in Bosnia led by Carl Bildt, said Mr Bildt, the international community's "high representative", appears to be facing a losing battle to convince Serbs in the Sarajevo suburbs to stay on under government rule, which formally began on Saturday.

The Bosnian government yesterday appeared to accept a proposal put forward on Saturday by Mr Bildt and the commander of the Implementation Force in Bosnia for Serb police to stay on in the formerly rebel-held suburbs for a 45-day transition period. But the government demanded that they be disarmed.

Bosnian officials have threatened to move their own police into the suburbs, from which more than 12,000 residents have already fled.

While the Bildt team's role in co-ordinating Bosnian reconstruction and democratic development was seen as central to the hopes for a durable peace, a two-day Nato conference in Munich heard strong criticism of Mr Bildt's performance and of the lack of international commitment to funding the operation.

"The civilian side needs time to get stood up," admitted General George Joulwan, Nato's European commander. A team of US congressmen had just visited Sarajevo complained that the Bildt team was accomplishing very little.

One senator said there was "absolutely no progress in reconstruction".

● Bosnia needs \$3 billion a year for the next five years to rebuild its economy, its new prime minister, Hasan Muratovic, said yesterday.

Senior Citizens with savings or their own home should read this before it's too late

If you have worked hard all your life and managed to put away a nest egg, you could end up losing most of your life savings because of exorbitant nursing home fees that the State won't pay. If you or your spouse suddenly became ill and require extended nursing care... NO ONE will help you with the nursing home bills until after you have used up virtually all of your savings — savings intended to provide security and a bit of extra comfort in retirement, or help for your children.

What you can do

Is there anything you can do to stop this nightmare from happening to you? Yes, there are several ways you could protect yourself — your rights and the different methods of protecting your savings and home are now revealed in a new guide "How to Protect Your Assets Against Nursing Home Costs".

This financial self-defence manual explains the simple procedures for preserving your savings and warns of

pitfalls to avoid. It shows how you can protect your home from being sold to pay for care costs.

It also shows how you can use your legal rights to protect your life savings for yourself, your spouse or your heirs. But it is absolutely essential you make any arrangements in good time. That's why you must consider your options TODAY — now, before it's too late.

How to order

To order your copy of "How to Protect Your Assets Against Nursing Home Costs" send your name, address and book title with payment (cheque or Visa/Access with expiry date) of £12.95 which includes postage and handling to Carnell plc, Dept NH33, Alresford, or Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP, or telephone their 24 hour order line on 01206 825600 (quoting reference NH33). Allow up to 14 days for delivery. You may return the book any time within three months for a full refund if not satisfied.

News in brief

Russian troops gag reporters

Russian troops confiscated tape recorders from two Dutch reporters and arrested their local driver outside the Chechen capital, Grozny.

"It was clear that they wanted to stop journalists from going to Novogrozny," Bert Lanting, of De Volkskrant newspaper, said.

He was referring to the town where Chechen rebels were due to release hostages seized in Dagestan. — *Reuters*.

Airlift to continue

Customs officials in Peshawar, Pakistan, said yesterday they would let the international Red Cross resume an emergency food airlift to the Afghan capital, Kabul, today after a day's halt. — *Reuters*.

Triple suicide

Two young men and a woman held hands and jumped from a Lisbon viaduct 180ft to their deaths on a road below, police said yesterday. One officer said he heard them say "Let's go" before leaping. — *AP*.

Youth killed

Two teenagers are being investigated for allegedly stabbing a schoolmate to death outside a school in the Garges-les-Gonesse suburb of Paris in a row over stolen gloves, judicial sources said yesterday. — *Reuters*.

Queensland blues for M...

Such home...

Editor...

Editor...



Egyptian...

...where...

Handwritten Arabic text: "مكتبة القرآن"

News in brief

Queensland election blues for Keating

ONE of Paul Keating's worst electoral nightmares seemed to have come true yesterday when his Labour Party appeared to have lost the key north Queensland state seat of Mundingburra, held since the 1920s, to the Liberals, just four weeks before the general election.

Tajik warlords gain ground

THE Tajik first deputy prime minister, Mahmadsaid Ubaidullayev, a long-standing ally of President Emomali Rakhmonov, resigned yesterday, giving in to a demand by two renegade warlords who wanted virtually the entire government to be replaced.

Interfax news agency said the resignations were part of a deal between Mr Rakhmonov on condition that Colonel Mahmud Khudoyberdiyev and Ibrohillo Baimatov disarm by February 7.

The resignations could defuse a crisis which has threatened to plunge the country into a repeat of its 1992 civil war.

Saudi bomb suspect turned in

PAKISTAN has handed over to the Saudi Arabian authorities a Saudi wanted in connection with the bombing in November of a US-run military training centre in Riyadh, in which seven people died.

Pakistani police sources said the Saudis had provided a photograph of Mr Sarai, who they said had lived in Pakistan since 1980 and was a frequent visitor to Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Kashmir.

Mutineers strip Conakry bare

SHOPS and markets in the Guinean capital Conakry were bare yesterday after a frenzy of looting by mutinous soldiers demanding better pay and rations.

President Lansana Conte has responded by declaring himself defence minister and promising pay rises from this month. He told a meeting of about 1,000 mutineers, including many of his presidential guard.

Editor survives shooting

THE publisher of Nigeria's leading independent newspaper, the Guardian, has survived an attempt by gunmen to kill him, the paper said on Saturday.

Doctors treating Mr Ibru, aged 61, said bullets hit the left side of his head but did not penetrate his skull. He could lose his left eye.

The government closed Guardian group newspapers for more than a year in 1984. They were allowed to reopen last October after Mr Ibru apologised for any offensive reports the papers might have carried.

Leakey sets unity terms

THE Safari party formed last year by the white Kenyan conservationist Richard Leakey (left) has threatened to withdraw from attempts to form a united opposition unless existing party leaders step down.

Egyptian journalists for trial

THREE Egyptian journalists have been sent for trial charged with libelling the former religious endowments minister Mohamed al-Mahjoub during the parliamentary elections last year and after Mr Mahjoub lost his post in a cabinet reshuffle last month.

"I used to tell fibs at school because I went to a school where everyone was really rich and I was poor and I had second hand clothes and stuff so I always lied to pretend I was better" — Rosie Boycott

Media G2 page 8

The UN's boss is trying to exorcise financial demons — and staying silent on his future, writes Ian Black

Secular pope's call to alms

THE United Nations secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, is bidding his time over whether to run for a second term as he grapples with an unprecedented financial crisis that he will warn this week could shut the organisation down.

With drastic staff cuts in the offing — described as "a massacre" by senior officials — morale at an all-time low, and relations with the United States lurching from bad to worse, the Egyptian statesman is now said to be more anxious to arrest the UN's decline than to further his own already distinguished career.

Now aged 73, Dr Boutros-Ghali has made no public statement about his intentions, but has told friends he will decide by the summer. One consideration is whether he will find the time to write his memoirs if he stays on.

Judges say UN mistreated accused employees

AN independent panel's decision that the UN was mistaken in two cases in which employees were punished has shed new light on the operations of a body beyond the judicial reach of any state yet subject to pressures from Washington and other governments.

One case involved a UN employee penalised for the theft of millions of dollars from his department, and the other alleged favouritism in awarding contracts. Judges said the employees were unfairly treated.

But long before the puff of white smoke emerges, what is certain is that times are harder for the UN than ever before. After a guarded response to last month's European Union proposal for

The escalating financial crisis is being played out in grim political circumstances. When the US said recently that the secretary-general had been "misguided" during talks on a peacekeeping force for eastern Slavonia, he hit back by criticising the "vulgarity" of a statement by Madeleine Albright, the feisty American ambassador to the UN.

Despite such exchanges, many feel Dr Boutros-Ghali has unjustly been made the fall guy over Bosnia. Some believe he should be given more credit for targeting waste and cutting costs.

In this atmosphere the succession issue is on the back burner. Ahmed Fawzi, Dr Boutros-Ghali's spokesman, said: "There is no issue more important today for the UN than the resolution of its financial crisis. The question of the secretary-general is of secondary importance at the moment."



Public outcry... Demonstrators in Dhaka yesterday accuse police of brutality to students and demand the resignation of the prime minister, Begum Khaleda Zia. She cancelled three campaign appearances because of violence aimed at disrupting the February 15 parliamentary elections, which the opposition is boycotting.

Evangelism and the vengeance angle give Buchanan an edge

Martin Walker in Metairie, Louisiana

PAT BUCHANAN is doing what he does best, sitting before a television camera rolling, making the outrageous sound reasonable as he assures the listeners to WMIX that there are "no exceptions" in his opposition to abortion.

"Even if that pregnancy is the result of rape, you don't kill the innocent baby. If we are going to kill someone, let's kill the rapist," says the most conservative of presidential candidates.

This is a suburban radio station in Louisiana, and the cameras have gathered because of the sudden and startling prospect of Mr Buchanan pulling off another surprise and emerging the winner of the Louisiana primary, just as he won the Alaska primary last week.

Bob Dole and Steve Forbes. He would also become the most likely beneficiary of the huge block of Southern votes in its Super Tuesday primary next month.

His Southern strategy hinges on the two burly figures flanking him at the microphone, the men who have put him in striking distance of another unexpected success: Irv Magri and Bill Shanks.

The Rev Bill Shanks speaks for the fastest-growing church in the South, the New Covenant Fellowship, a fundamentalist inter-denominational group spearheading evangelical Christianity in central and South America and elsewhere.

Mr Magri, a former New Orleans policeman, has invented a new kind of broad-casting. He sends members out in the back seat of police patrol cars with a cellular phone.

Tremors hinder quake rescue

Andrew Higgins Far East Correspondent

CHINESE troops searched for survivors in freezing darkness last night after a powerful earthquake killed at least 240 people and left 3,500 seriously injured in a scenic mountain region popular with foreign backpackers.

Worst hit were villages around Lijiang, a town in China's south-western Yunnan province noted for its spectacular scenery, cave art and ancient relics.

The earthquake, measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale, was the deadliest in China since 1988. It struck on Saturday evening as many people were eating dinner and watching television. Tens of thousands lost their homes.

A number of Chinese tourists, whose name and nationality were not immediately known, was among those seriously injured, the official Xinhua news agency said. Hotels in Lijiang were evacuated, guests spending the night around bonfires.

Last night Chinese television showed dazed survivors huddled in the dark outside crumpled buildings and rescue workers pumping air into the chest of a man pulled from the rubble. Crushed corpses covered with dirt and blood lay in makeshift morgues.

The earthquake is the second large disaster to hit China within a week. Last Wednesday, a huge explosion destroyed a block of flats in Shaoyang city, Hunan, killing more than 100 people.

China begins to erect second Great Wall — in cyberspace

Andrew Higgins and Assem Achcar

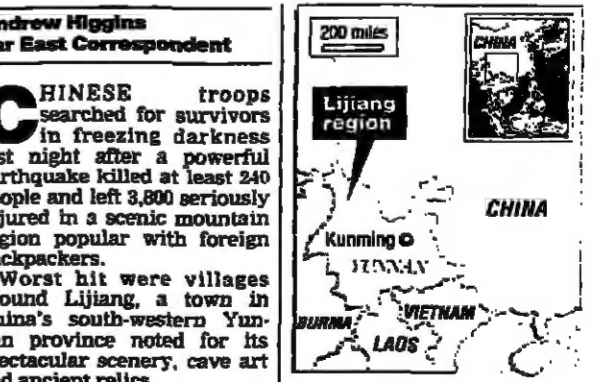
MORE than two millennia after China's first emperor built the Great Wall to keep out intruders on horseback, Beijing yesterday set about erecting barriers against barbarians on the Internet.

Authorities announced plans for a network of cyber garrisons policed by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), as Western governments struggle to reconcile free speech with calls for a crackdown on on-line delinquency.

German authorities, anxious about the spread of pornography and Nazi tracts, last week expanded an investigation to the world's biggest Internet service, America Online.

Under regulations approved by China's prime minister, Li Peng, the MPT will provide the only permissible electronic access ramp to the information superhighway. All existing networks must disband and re-register.

The move is part of a more general campaign by the Communist Party leadership to reassert control over information entering the country.



ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE MARE ST. LONDON E8 4SA (Charity Ref No. 23123) Dear Anonymous Friends, You did not wish your gifts to be spoiled by human words of thanks. Their value gleams in the untold relief you silently provide. We have honoured your trust, and always will. Sister Superior

Not quite the right ticket

A dodgy start to privatisation

STEVEN NORRIS changed trains yesterday, applauding the first stage of privatisation as the dawn of a bright new railway future. Unfortunately there was a little problem for the junior transport minister — a matter of one of three franchises being put on hold while an alleged fraud is investigated. From the spokesman for the government of law and order came this comforting explanation: the sum involved even if the allegation were substantiated, said Mr Norris, was "not particularly large".

This shuffling off of a practice said to involve revenue of around £30,000 a month will come as a surprise to all those who have been given a £10 on-the-spot fine for some small-scale ticket irregularity. We are always being told that fare evasion affects the entire community and must be stamped out ruthlessly. What is alleged now is just as serious: the attempt by a privatised company to avoid handing over a fair share of ticket revenue to the publicly owned London Transport. If not one law for the rich and another for the poor, it is certainly one law for the private and another for the public interest.

This is hardly surprising in an area where government policy has been driven overwhelmingly by ideological prejudice against the public sector. Their campaign has actually contrived to shift travellers' sympathy in favour of British Rail — the traditional butt of saloon-bar and under-the-station-clock humour. Mr Norris observed yesterday that it was "absurd" for people to be harping back already to the days of BR. He would do better to ask himself just why, on the very first day of privatisation, it does not seem absurd at all to many people. The fact is that in the 1970s and 1980s BR did make great improvements to its service, partly with the benefit of substantial investment and new technology but also with a considerable degree of managerial flair. Progress has not been maintained to the same extent in the 1990s but most passengers realise that this is largely the result of the steady withdrawal of government support.

Whether or not the "serious breach" of ticketing arrangements for LTS Rail is judged to be fraudulent or just smart business, it is an early reminder that we have not seen anything yet. Splitting up BR into 26 competing companies means that each enterprise will seek to maximise its own revenue at the expense of the others. We have already seen the same impulse at work in the predatory behaviour of some privatised bus companies. In pre-nationalised days there were at least a few private companies to engage in the business of counting pieces of cardboard and divvying up the revenue. Now, as privatisation pundits were explaining yesterday, all 25 of the new companies will want the biggest possible share of the revenue cake. Similarly Railtrack will be anxious to protect its own balance sheet by charging the franchised companies as much as it can, particularly when extra expense is involved. There have already been reports of bad-tempered disputes over responsibility for accident clearance, in which the line remains immobilised while the accountants dispute the blame.

All of this should be a gift to the Labour Party if only it could summon up the courage to defend one of the basic principles for which it once stood. Yesterday Gordon Brown said that he was not sure whether the nation could "afford" to take back the network, while at the same time asserting that privatisation will cost the taxpayer an extra £800 million a year. Why not consider the logic of these figures? A firm statement would make Railtrack a much less attractive buy. It would also find an instant echo with the travelling public who fear that as privatised "customers" they will have a worse deal than when they were plain ordinary passengers.

The Forbes bonanza

Mr Clinton may be the lucky beneficiary

STEVE FORBES'S millions will certainly not be used to make a direct contribution to the Democratic Party's campaign funds. But Mr Forbes is doing even better by Bill Clinton. The personal fortune that he is spending on promoting his candidacy for the Republican nomination has created mayhem in the party and is provoking recriminations among the other Republicans in search of the White House. His call for a regressive flat rate income tax, and for a return to the long-abandoned gold standard, is unlikely to survive scrutiny. Yet the result is that Senator Bob Dole's position as unassailable Republican frontrunner is being undermined, and his credibility as President Clinton's most formidable opponent is rapidly being eroded. With the Louisiana caucus today, followed later in the month by the Iowa caucus and the New Hampshire primary, February is the beginning of the end game in the long drawn-out race for the Presidency. Polls in all three states show that Mr Forbes is rapidly closing in on Mr Dole. Instead of a glorious march forward to nomination at the Republican Convention, there is talk among the Republicans of dumping the Senate Majority leader.

Unsurprisingly all this is cheerful music to Clinton's ears. Barring unexpected developments in Whitewatergate, this year's Presidential campaign seems increasingly set to turn into a virtual one-horse race. The Forbes invasion of the Republican camp is not solely responsible for the Democrats' optimism. Republican fortunes had turned before he made himself a serious contender. Newt Gingrich's Contract with America fell short of its promise even to those who had voted so enthusiastically in 1994 to elect Republican majorities in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Conservative fervour and inflexibility among the young Republican freshmen has alienated public opinion. Last week's Oregon election of a Democrat to succeed the Republican Senator Packwood was a significant pointer to the changing mood. In the deadlock with the Republicans over the federal budget, Mr Clinton has consistently scored by using his veto to defend at least part of the federal welfare structure budget. Mr Dole's lacklustre performance in reply to the President's combative State of the Union address brought him under fire from the Republican party's barons. Add the Forbes persona and wealth to this brew of discontent, and it reveals a rudderless Republican party. Under the circumstances, it is hardly surprising that America's allies are already speculating who will be Secretary of State during President Clinton's second term.



Letters to the Editor

Criminals: a train of thought

MICHAEL WHITE is right to point out that what John Major said about crime last Monday was inaccurate, but there were numerous other inaccuracies as well (Major taunted in new row over misleading claims, February 2). Major said: "Since 1979 we've recruited 16,000 more police officers; 700 more are expected this year alone. Over the next three years we've budgeted for 5,000 more." This is not true. The latest figures released by the Home Office show a shortfall of over 3,000 on John Major's claim. Indeed, the average annual increase in police officers available for ordinary duty under Labour was 2,196 whereas, since 1979, the average annual increase has been just 787. John Major's "expectation" of 700 extra officers this year is not shared by anyone outside his party. In the

last nine months for which figures are available there was actually a drop of 588. Ever since the General Election campaign in 1992, the Home Office has been making optimistic estimates which have not been fulfilled. The result reported in the 1995 Annual Report for the average number of police officers in 1993-4 was 1,331 below the forward plan published before the General Election. The Home Office no longer takes responsibility for police numbers and has stopped publishing forward plans. They have not budgeted for extra officers: the £20 million extra which has been made available to police authorities has been raided from the capital account. Some 1,000 extra officers cannot cost less than £100 million per year. The government has not budgeted for this. John Major also seems to

Searching high and low for a culture that is common to all

CELEBRATE silent devotion to the book and the inability of many (including Guardian sub-editors) to distinguish its from its (Trivial pursuit, February 1). I'm glad that Henry Porter is raising the debate about the place of traditional culture. But does anyone with any connection to the real world think that relativism has swept through the literary academy? Is it credible to suppose that the tiny handful of English-speaking intellectuals influenced by a tiny handful of French structuralists have managed to scupper Shakespeare and abandon Aristotle? Max Farrar, School of Cultural Studies, Leeds Metropolitan University, Calverley Street, Leeds LS1 3BE.

HENRY PORTER asks: "How many of us know more about Chaucer than 'Taming of the Shrew'?" Students at the University of London do. But, more importantly, they are trained to appreciate the narrative art of Tarentino just as much as the semantics of the Canterbury Tales. (Prof) Keville Wales, Head of English, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX.

Bad language

MAY I suggest that the Language Wardens (Letters, February 1) visit the Old Kent Road? I read these notices along a stretch of a mile or so: 1. "Talent Contest on Fridays" (pub window); 2. "Coper Tube" (builders' merchants); 3. "Good second-hand Tyres (motor-spares shop); 4. "Cut Price Stationary" (stationers' window). Lawrence Sutton, 73 Lancing Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 0QU.



Customs take a comic turn

NICK HASTED'S article about the censorship of work by Robert Crumb courtesy of Customs & Excise was most welcome. If overdue (Crumb cartoons cleared after "preposterous" obscenity case, January 31). Customs has been randomly poking its fingers into the eyes of British readers for some time. Two months ago, I received a parcel from Fantagraphics Books (located in Seattle), one of the main publishers of Crumb's work and a frequent target in Customs cross-hairs. The parcel contained only copies of The Comics Journal, a semi-scholarly periodical, and was passed through without seizure. Since then, however, I have received two other parcels from the US, both of which have been opened and inspected. Neither was from

Arthur's seat

ARTHUR Scargill's comment that Keir Hardie also lost his deposit before going on to form a mass party should not be taken too seriously (Scargill crushed by Labour, February 2). I was in Hemsforth throughout the campaign, and witnessed the attitude to Arthur Scargill: people were turning out to make sure he didn't get in. He contributed to Labour's magnificent result. Coming fourth behind a discredited Tory Party and a lacklustre Lib-Dem campaign was hardly an encouraging beginning. Kevin Barron MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

YOUR attempt at a hatchet Job on the Socialist Labour Party allowed you to ignore the fact that it is incredibly difficult for any new party to make a breakthrough in our first-past-the-post, two-and-a-half party electoral system. This is a mantra your paper repeated endlessly during the last day, with blizzard conditions and no visibility whatsoever. We were a gang of young climbers on an "off-day" from our huts near the lake shore for there was far too much snow for climbing. Everything was buried deep in snow — all the tracks, spoil heaps, quarry huts, machinery, even small crags — but

A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: The morning sunshine sparked on the snow-crusts crags atop the east face of the Old Man until they looked like fairy castles in icing sugar. Only the fleecy contrails of an unseen aircraft high above flew disturbed a completely cloudless, bright blue sky. In sheltered corners, the sun was pleasantly warm; elsewhere, a biting wind sweeping straight out of the east chilled us to the bone. Enjoying the other day, our friendly battle with the wind and ice steps was busily overlaid with snow. I remembered a different day on the same hill almost 65 years ago. The snow was the deepest I have ever seen in England — several feet deep and snowing hard all day, with blizzard conditions and no visibility whatsoever. We were a gang of young climbers on an "off-day" from our huts near the lake shore for there was far too much snow for climbing. Everything was buried deep in snow — all the tracks, spoil heaps, quarry huts, machinery, even small crags — but

Only the lowly will get off Scott-free

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

IT IS probably better to be a lucky Prime Minister than a good one. So Tory backbenchers will be rejoicing at the presence with which they lined up behind John Major a couple of days before fate pulled a trump card from up his sleeve. Who would have guessed that, within barely a week of the hideously contrived joke being made, he would have been offered the chance to demonstrate that he is really tough on hypocrisy and the causes of hypocrisy. Yet, before Easter, he will have the opportunity to prove that his critics are wrong to claim that it was just another soundbite. He will be able to prove that, for once, he meant what he said. Reading out that briefly effective punchline — the clear result of hours of toil by men who should be employed on something better — was always a risk. Having previously announced "I have little time for point-scoring and be-

littling others", the gratuitous reference to hypocrisy was, a more subtle mind than John Major's would have recognised, itself an example of the double standards which he claimed to deplore. But he got away with it and the gods have smiled on him again. Not only can he confirm his work for cant. He can work his way towards the high ground of politics in easy stages. He has Michael Heseltine to thank for the first leg up. The anti-hypocritical John Major can (and being an honourable man no doubt will) dissociate himself from what history will not remember as the deputy prime minister's St Stephen's Club speech. According to newspaper reports, the Old Pretender applauded companies which postpone the payment of their bills to the last possible moment. The morality of large corporations protecting their cash flows by forcing small firms into bankruptcy can be argued elsewhere. The important point, as far as the Prime Minister's reputation is concerned, is that the government claims to deplore the practice. A bill which encourages — perhaps even requires prompt

payment — is soon to be debated in the House of Commons. It is known to be unpopular with late payers. But that is no excuse for the government doing one thing and its senior members saying another in a meeting which is advertised as private. It would be unreasonable to expect the Prime Minister to be an honourable man — I assume that even now, the highly paid help who invented the one-liners two weeks ago are putting together a statement which trips delicately between what the government claims is right and what was advocated last Friday by the last of the great actor-managers. The discovery that murky grey water separates the Prime Minister and his deputy may cause John Major some brief embarrassment. But a man who despises hypocrisy is not likely to let that stand in the way of following the path of honour. In any case, it will be first-rate practice for the greater glory which is to come. John Major must be giving thanks for the Scott Report on arms sales to Iraq. It will enable him to show his real contempt for the shoddy compromises that disgrace so much of our public life. Tough on hypocrisy and tough on the causes of hypocrisy. That requires him to be tough on ministers who deceive the House of Commons. To be honest — and despite

that in this case, as in all things, the Prime Minister will receive the full and public support of Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor has already said, in unequivocal language, that were the Scott Report to find him guilty of some misdemeanour he would resign at once. Perhaps it would help their leader if other, equally loyal, colleagues — Lilley, Lyell, Heseltine and Waldegrave — made the same praiseworthy declaration, if criticised. Clearly, it would have no practical effect on their futures. For a Prime Minister who so loathes hypocrisy that he speaks out against it, is going to have no truck with miscreant colleagues who try to hang on to office. All politicians, and perhaps even the politician-despising public, should rejoice at the combination of principle and expediency which now challenges John Major. Just for once, what is right coincides with what is necessary. For if, after all his pious talk, the Prime Minister was soft on hypocrisy and on the perpetrators of hypocrisy he would sink to even lower levels of public esteem.

You will recognise my faith in Major's nobility of spirit

what you will recognise as my faith in John Major's nobility of spirit — he has not got off to a very good start. It will enable him to show his real contempt for the shoddy compromises that disgrace so much of our public life. Tough on hypocrisy and tough on the causes of hypocrisy. That requires him to be tough on ministers who deceive the House of Commons. To be honest — and despite

مكتبة القرآن

Who's Special

Beijing Diary

Andrew Higgins

IT COULD be the last freebie in China: a glimpse of the pickled corpse of Mao Zedong, on his back under Perspex in Tiananmen Square. In a city where even public toilets can now demand money, it is refreshing to discover some things remain secret.

A few years ago in Moscow, I had met Marxism's master embalmer. He had worked on Lenin, Stalin, Ho Chi Minh, but missed out on Mao. He considered the Chinese, who had dared go it alone, impudent charlatans. He said their pickling potion lacked some key secret ingredient and predicted Mao would rot away.

That Mao had been embalmed with less than complete confidence has also been suggested by the Chairman's own memoirs. In the 1950s, in memoirs written from exile in the US, Dr Li described trying to deflate and patch up a corpse pumped full of chemicals.

Twenty years ago, Mao's death, though, Mao seems to be holding up remarkably well. Even on the iciest winter day, a long queue of solemn pilgrims, mostly out-of-town peasants, shuffles through the portals of Mao Zedong Memorial Hall and into a dimly-lit inner sanctum. Mao lies under a red flag with a gold hammer and sickle. Calligraphy on the wall asserts his claim — a bit dodgy in the circumstances — to immortality.

Maoism may be long dead, but, beside a formaldehyde-bathed body on a black marble bed, rich and poor can, for a few seconds at least, pretend to stand equal. On display since 1977, Mao last month received his 100 millionth visitor.

If all are equal before the Great Helmsman, however, some are more equal than others. Look closely and you will see the queue is divided into the mausoleum — the first moving quickly, the second slowly. In an arrangement of exquisite ingenuity, the management of China's holiest shrine has squared the circle of Maoism and money, of equality and privilege. Visitors wishing to show exceptional piety — and not waste time queuing in the cold — are invited to purchase a bouquet of funeral flowers at an authorised stall by the entrance. Flowers in hand, they are then told to jump the queue and hurry inside, ahead of non-paying visitors. Charging admission to see Mao would be sacrilege: no place of worship forces faithful to buy tickets. But if Buddhist temples and Catholic churches can charge for candles, why not demand money for flowers?

EACH bunch costs only two yuan (20p), but multiply that by 100 million. And all the flowers are fake, an innovation that has allowed a lucrative breakthrough in artificial recycling. Whenever the flora gets too deep inside the mausoleum, staff arrive with a big box, collect the flowers, take them back outside, and sell them to the next batch of worshippers.

Not all the Maoists are making so subtle. At the back of the mausoleum, what used to be a fusty souvenir shop selling faded postcards has mushroomed into a frenetic bazaar of Mao memorabilia: pens, watches, leather jackets, hoodies, T-shirts, chopsticks — even a model of Mao standing on Tiananmen gate that twinkles in the dark and plays "The East Is Red".

The Communist Party seems both more and less buffeted by such Mao mania. It has expended much energy of late trying to rebut the blasphemous memoirs of its former doctor, Dr Li. Archives have been sorted, doctors and nurses called out of retirement as witnesses, and an entire book written to debunk the portrayal of Mao as a despotic philanderer addled by syphilis, paranoia and power.

But there is a more subtle danger. The Maoist desire Party partisans want purged from the record increase, not diminish, the Mao mystique — at least, for a generation that remembers neither the famine of the Great Leap Forward or the farcical Cultural Revolution. A young fan at the mausoleum confessed he had read the doctor's banned memoirs, and said he now admires Mao even more. "Mao was a real leader," he said. "Mao did whatever he wanted, whenever he wanted. Long Live Chairman Mao."



A woman's work is always undone

Commentary

Mark Lawson

POLITICIANS still like to complain, of a hostile inquiry. "That's a 'when did you stop beating your wife' sort of question," Tony Blair, though, looks likely to become the latest modern politician to have to ask reporters and opponents "When will you stop beating my wife?" An article in yesterday's Mail On Sunday, melodramatically asked, "Will Cherie be Britain's Hillary?"

It's a tough job, being a political spouse. Betty Ford became a clinic. Nancy Reagan became a foundation. Mary

Wilson and Denis Thatcher became objects of bestselling satire. Barbara Bush wrote the spoof memoirs of her pet dog. All of these roles proved acceptable. Hillary Clinton, though, tried to have a job inside politics and Cherie Blair is trying to have one outside, and this, it seems, is still not to be tolerated.

There were two particularly strange aspects to yesterday's attack on the wife of the Labour leader. The first was that it was apparently prompted by her remark at a legal gathering: "Lord Irvine will be the next Lord Chancellor, first appointed to the position by Neil Kinnock, which makes the disputed sentence no more than a standard prediction of confidence in a Labour victory. Indeed, the sentiment would only have been newsworthy had Mrs Blair said, 'If Lord Irvine becomes Lord Chancellor', a formula which would have implied doubts about either Lord Irvine or Mr Blair."

The second mystery of this article was that its author, the historian Niall Ferguson, shares his life with Sue Douglas, who is now editor of the Mail On Sunday's chief rival, the Sunday Express. Was his crusade against strong and powerful women an elaborate

joke between the Mail On Sunday and himself, or between himself and Ms Douglas? Or is his relationship with his partner of the kind which he seems to advocate for the Clintons and the Blairs? One of such professional separation that his house-mate would not know he was writing such an article or that he was not aware that his partner even had a career, so extreme is their domestic exclusion zone.

It is never entirely clear what kind of political marriage is regarded as ideal by the rightwing critics of the Clintons and the Blairs. Norma Major has sometimes been accused of not being involved enough with her husband's career, choosing for example, to live mainly in Romington rather than London. How, then, is a spouse to judge exactly the degree of proximity to adopt? Personally, I was alarmed when, in an excellent BBC2 documentary about Tony's wives last year, Gill Radwood appeared to suggest she was unaware her husband had decided to run for the Prime Ministership until she heard the news on the radio.

The rightwing ideal of a political wife still derives from Eleanor Roosevelt, who once said: "I used to tell my husband that if he could make me understand something, it would be clear to all the other people in the country." But this winsome passivity was

merely a calculated public persona; in reality, she was independently minded, both politically and sexually.

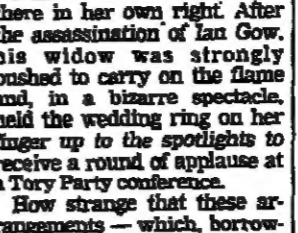
Nearly 100 years later, such spirit is still best kept private by political wives. Hillary Clinton has frequently been accused — confusingly both not selected, to fight his vacant seat. The widow of John Smith was appointed to the House of Lords after the Labour leader's death, although, impressive woman that she is, she would never have been sent there in her own right. After the assassination of Ian Gow, his widow was strongly pushed to carry on the flame of his bizarre spectacle, held the wedding ring on her finger up to the spotlights to receive a round of applause at a Tory Party conference.

How strange that these arrangements — which, borrowing an image from India, we might call sunitz careers — should be found tolerable, while the idea of influence within a living political marriage should not. But, then, the pretensions of widows obey that of a wife as her husband's slave.

Any demotion of Cherie Blair would expose the fear and dislike of intelligent and independent women, which — adopted by Thatcher's premier — seems increasingly a historical eccentricity — remains a dominating principle of politics. It would also remind us exactly what the Conservative Party means when it talks about the importance of marriage as an institution.

Perhaps Mrs Major or Mrs Heseltine or Mrs Mawhinney might advise their husbands to sue for divorce within it, against rearing in the next election to the cheap, neanderthal tactics of rhetorical wife-beating, but I expect they know their place too well to think that their views on politics would be of any interest to their men.

Wiping out the ins of the fathers



Ros Coward

WHAT have Michael Howard and Michael Portillo got against their fathers? Luis Portillo was a Spanish Republican who fled to Britain in 1938; Howard's father arrived in the late thirties, escaping Jewish persecution in Romania. Yet this same Michael Howard, actively supported by Portillo, has now made it virtually impossible for the modern equivalent of their parents to seek asylum in Britain.

New regulations introduced today are likely to make many refugees destitute or even prevent them coming here at all. The changes are ostensibly financial. Asylum seekers will lose their entitlement to benefits unless they apply for refugee status at their port of entry; benefits will also be withdrawn from those who appeal against decisions to refuse them asylum. Asylum seekers, of course, are already barred from taking jobs for six months.

The implications are vast, potentially depriving refugees of their rights under International Law. After all, what does a right of appeal mean if you can't survive until the appeal is heard?

The lack of public outcry is surprising, but is probably because few people really understand what a drastic difference these changes could make. At present, most asylum seekers do not declare themselves to immigration officers at their port of entry. This is often because they arrive in states of confusion with little understanding of procedures. It is also because many have to rely on agents, who discourage contact with immigration officers and who use visas and false passports which they are anxious to collect and re-use, so asylum seekers are often whisked through and abandoned. One Zairean recently spent two days wandering round Heathrow until a French speaker bailed him out.

Refugee workers have always counselled asylum seekers not to apply at their port of entry. When disorientated, upset and unable to speak the language, they are unable to give coherent answers on the long and complicated form that greets them. Statistics prove that far more of those who claim refugee status on entry are turned down than those who apply later with the help of friends or solicitors.

Refugees will continue to enter in these ways, but will no longer have any financial entitlements. Refugee and church charities expect such hardship that they have contingency plans for soup kitchens.

The changes also jeopardise the rights of those already in Britain. One typical case is an Algerian doctor who has been studying in this country, financed by his brother. Recently, this brother disappeared, presumed murdered, and other relatives are threatened. It is dangerous for him to go home, but his legal aid worker thinks his prospects for asylum are remote. "The Home Office will suspect him of having come to better himself, rather than being a genuine refugee, especially given the unsympathetic attitude to applicants from Algeria."

Asylum-seeking is now the only way an immigrant can enter Britain without previous family ties. And since 1990, the numbers have dramatically increased: 40,000 applicants are expected this year. The Government uses these figures to suggest massive fraud. Yet contrary to Howard's description of Britain as a "honey pot" for economic migrants, the processes controlling entry to this country are already harsh, and the major military and political upheavals of the 1990s. Very few Nigerians sought asylum in the 1980s, a period of extreme economic hardship. But when political persecution began, the numbers increased dramatically. Even so, between 1983 and 1985, the Home Office only accepted 19 out of 2,500 applications, on the grounds that Nigeria is "a country where rights are generally respected".

IT CAN'T be conclusively proved that the Government is deliberately stirring up racist fears with the election in mind, but Tory MPs who reply to worried constituents talk of "bogus applicants" and economic fraud. It is also clear that the Home Office now endorses an unpleasant view of asylum seekers as *a priori* liars. Applicants can expect their narratives to be regarded as the fabricated stories of economic free-loaders. It is deeply ironic that in his standard letter to Cabinet colleagues about this subject, Howard should foreground Romanian refugees: "As many as 98 per cent of claims from countries like Poland, Ghana, and Romania are rejected," he asserts. As the recent Jewish Quarterly reveals, Howard's father was prescient. Seeking to avoid the fate that his brothers later suffered, what welcome would such an asylum seeker receive today?

Howard himself supplies the answer. Send them back; they're only after our money.

Along with Luis Portillo, Howard's own father would have been deported under his son's new regime.



Labour strategist Philip Gould explains the school of thought aimed at getting the people back into the new People's Party

Class worriers

I WENT to a secondary modern school on the distant fringes of London. It was not an inner-city school, was not blessed by great poverty or deprivation. The parents of most of my friends had jobs that were manual but skilled: plumbers, nurses, carpenters, secretaries. They were working class, but they wanted to get on. Their children — my friends — had ambitions that flowed from their fathers. If they did well at school, they could become apprentice engineers; if not, they were struggling.

These people were tough, in their view of life and in their political attitudes. They respected hard work because hard work was what they would have to do, but they wanted to be paid fairly for it. They supported the welfare state, but they were opposed to its abuse. They were very definitely tough on crime. And they were the heart of the Labour's support among the majority of the British working class.

In 1966, the year I left school, this had fallen to 34 per cent. And Labour's lead among working-class voters of all kinds had fallen from 45 per cent to 8 per cent. In that year, Labour stopped being the party of the majority of the British working class. But many drew the wrong lessons from the 1983 general election defeat. In 1984, a very senior Labour figure said to me: "The working class have betrayed us. We educated them, we housed them, we gave them their opportunities and they turned on us." But it was not the working class that had left Labour. It was Labour that had left the working class. In the face of this global, Labour had to modernise. It had to change or it would die. This meant going forward and embracing the future, but it meant going backwards too — back to our original purpose as the party of the people, back to our original values, back to the level of trust we once enjoyed. Back to the future.

In 1965, when I first started working with Labour, I listened to the findings from the first focus groups that had been set up by the party. The results were consistent: the connection between Labour and its natural supporters had been broken. To them, we were "beyond the pale", espousing policies that were simply unacceptable. To them, we were no longer the party of hard work, of getting on, of responsibility, of fair reward of ambition. We had become the party of levelling down, of minorities, pouring scorn on working class aspirations and calling it materialism.

The Labour Party had forgotten its purpose: to be the party that represented the ambitions and values of working class people in Britain. Recovering this purpose was the first task of modernisation — a word that simply describes the transformation of the party from the minority party it had become into the majority party it was always intended to be. This task is on the way to being completed: 55 per cent of the C2 social group now say they will vote Labour — equalling our 1966 level. Our lead among working class voters of all types has risen to 43 per cent — within 2 per cent of our 1966 performance; and 62 per cent of all voters now believe Labour is the party of all the people.

Modernisation of Labour has won middle class voters — and so it should, and so it will. But its greatest achievement — that Labour once more a party working people can identify with.

has been to make Labour once more a party working class people can identify with. The party of the child I went to school with, New Labour, back as the party of the people. It is because it is so important that Labour is genuinely a people's party that political polling has no fears for me. Focus groups are not some black pseudo-scientific art. They are voters talking together, expressing a point of view: one way the people's voice can be heard in the political process. I conduct focus groups myself because I believe it is my responsibility to hear first-hand what the people have to say. There is nothing sinister about this.

AND what people are saying at the moment is what almost everyone reading this article knows: that scepticism about politicians and politics is ingrained and profound; that anger about this government is deep-rooted and will not melt away; and perhaps most important, that almost everyone has a story to tell about this government. That they bought a house that collapsed in value; that they lost their job after 20 years of loyal service; that they started a small business that folded in the recession; that a member of their family was denied access to a hospital, and had to be ferried around through the night searching for an empty bed. These are not isolated

stories. Time after time, formerly loyal Tory supporters have shifted to us not on a whim, but because of real injury inflicted by the Tories. And these injuries have left scars that will remain, whatever the Government does or says in the next year. Of course, political polling can be misused. But politics by public opinion is bad politics. Today, politicians who try, like the Prime Minister, to bend and shape themselves to the whims of public mood end up disillusioned, even despised. Mention the name John Major to any group of voters and you hear the same instant chorus: "weak, weak and weak". Voters don't want trimmers. They want politicians who have the courage of their convictions, prepared to take risks for what they believe in, to fight rather than fudge. I think it is important to hear what the voters have to say. I think it is part of being a people's party.

My parents were Christians and my mother was a socialist. From the start, I had come to believe that the values of compassion, fairness, justice, equality and responsibility for others were the values of a decent person and a decent society. For me, these are the moral choices, making them and I believe them now. The last two decades have seen not the advance of these values, but their retreat. Values defeated, not just in elections, but in arguments. Defeated not because our values were wrong, but because we confused means with ends, outdated policy prescriptions with moral choices, making values of the future seem like relics of the past.

In this vacuum, the values of the Conservatives flourished, and our values were declared redundant. To our opponents, economic efficiency left no room for fairness. For Maurice Saatchi, the choice was clear: between "caring and incompetent Labour, and cruel and efficient Conservatives".

Modernisation's second task is to reclaim our values and prove their modern necessity, to demonstrate that a decent society and an efficient economy are not contradictory, but essential to success. The lack of public outcry is surprising, but is probably because few people really understand what a drastic difference these changes could make. At present, most asylum seekers do not declare themselves to immigration officers at their port of entry. This is often because they arrive in states of confusion with little understanding of procedures. It is also because many have to rely on agents, who discourage contact with immigration officers and who use visas and false passports which they are anxious to collect and re-use, so asylum seekers are often whisked through and abandoned. One Zairean recently spent two days wandering round Heathrow until a French speaker bailed him out.

Three tasks of modernisation

- 1. Recover our purpose. Modernisation of Labour has won middle class voters. But its greatest achievement has been to make Labour once more a party working people can identify with.
- 2. Reclaim our values. To demonstrate that a decent society and an efficient economy are not contradictory, but complementary. This is why Tony Blair's speech on the "stakeholder economy" was so important: it showed that our values, far from being redundant in a modern global economy, are essential to success within it.
- 3. Regain the people's trust. Winning trust is not about the politics of playing safe; it is about a totally new approach to politics. It is about honesty, conviction and vision. It is about offering hope and defeating fear.

The COOPERATIVE BANK advertisement. No annual fee. Ever. Guaranteed free for life. Transfer your existing balance at just 1% per month (12.6% APR variable). Example: with a £3,000 balance on a Barclays or NatWest Bank credit card you could save up to £290 over two years. We will match your existing credit limit. Gold Card limit £3000 minimum. No need to bank with us - Call now. 0800 34 64 94. Call free quoting reference 57370.

Brodrick Haldane

Inside view of the celebrity snapper

BRODRICK HALDANE, who has died aged 88, was described by Cecil Beaton as the "founder of modern social photography". Others might have described him as the first of the paparazzi. The younger son of one of Scotland's oldest landed families, he was born in Edinburgh and brought up at Althelach, the family's home in the Inverness-shire district of Nether Lochaber, where his grandfather had been Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. In 1916, his father inherited a 7,000-acre Perthshire estate and became 26th Laird of Glenageles.

Sent off to boarding school at Sandford, then Lancing College, Brodrick at an early age began to emulate a former pupil, Tom Driberg, with contributions to newspaper gossip columns. Arriving in London to seek fame and fortune, he first tried his hand as an actor, enlisting as an extra at Eistree Studios before joining Sir Philip Ben Greet's Pastoral Players. In the early 1930s he acquired his first camera, a second-hand pocket Kodak so as to photograph George Bernard Shaw and Margot Asquith. His photographic career had begun with a flourish.

Through the 1930s, Brodrick's photographs of social life in London and in Continental Europe dominated the pages of the Tatler and Bystander and the Sketch Magazine. To begin with, however, his technique failed him. He had tremendous trouble with focusing and contact. He eventually based himself in a second-hand home (once the summer residence of Madame de Staël) of his friend and patron Mary, Comtesse Chevreux d'Antraigues, the daughter of the Scottish shipping magnate, Sir John Laing.

Lausanne in the 1930s and 1940s became a mecca for disenchanted European royalty and film stars. The exiled Queen Victoria Eugenie of Spain lived next door, and Charles Chaplin brought his family to live nearby at Vevey. Noël Coward was at Les Avants and brought Marion Dietrich to dinner. All these goings-on Brodrick witnessed.

His techniques of an old-style tabloid photographer

But it wasn't. Every summer he hunted the rich and famous at Cannes, St Anton, Le Touquet and Cap d'Antibes, sending his pictures back to London. In the winter it would be Gstaad and St Moritz. In Monte Carlo he came across the exiled Duke and Duchess of Windsor, and the duchess was once recruited to carry his box of flash bulbs. At Eden Rock, outside Monte Carlo, he photographed the Kennedy family, including a beautiful future president of the United States of America.

Serving as a gunner during the war, he was stationed at Chatham, and returning to London in 1945 he realised that the social world of between the wars had gone for ever. Without hesitation, he turned his back on Britain and deliberately sought out the surviving pockets of that world in mainland Europe. He eventually based himself in Switzerland, at the Lausanne home (once the summer residence of Madame de Staël) of his friend and patron Mary, Comtesse Chevreux d'Antraigues, the daughter of the Scottish shipping magnate, Sir John Laing.

Lausanne in the 1930s and 1940s became a mecca for disenchanted European royalty and film stars. The exiled Queen Victoria Eugenie of Spain lived next door, and Charles Chaplin brought his family to live nearby at Vevey. Noël Coward was at Les Avants and brought Marion Dietrich to dinner. All these goings-on Brodrick witnessed.

His techniques of an old-style tabloid photographer



Travelling light... Brodrick Haldane, just before leaving for Romania last year

Carter Burden

Papering over the cracks

CARTER BURDEN, who has died of heart failure aged 54, threw parties in the mid-1960s to which would come Capote, Warhol and assorted Kennedys. He held New York City political office for most of a decade, collected art and first editions, and contracted a glamorous sixties marriage to a great-granddaughter of Standard Oil's founder.

But it was probably through his seventies involvement with NYC's radical weekly, the Village Voice, that he achieved most fame — and notoriety. Burden provided the route by which the Voice stumbled from titles liberalism and ethics radicalism, into the arms of Rupert Murdoch. That embrace was to last eight years.

In 1969 Burden, late of Harvard and Columbia law school and a former assistant to Bobby Kennedy, was running for New York city council. It was then that he met Voice co-editors Dan Wolf and Ed Fancher. In 1985 the two men had scraped together \$10,000 (provided by Norman Mailer and Fancher) to found the Voice. By the late sixties the two journalists were hankering after security.

In 1970 a Burden company purchased 80 per cent of the weekly, netting the editors three million dollars and leaving them — they thought — in editorial control. In 1974, out of the blue, Burden merged the Voice into Clay Felker's New York magazine company. The glossy, a trailer for eighties consumerism, was the Voice's antithesis. Wolf and Fancher were off the paper in five weeks, suing — with Mailer — Burden and Felker within 12 weeks, and setting out of court nine months later. Felker's tenure was short-lived. In the closing days of 1976 Burden sold out to Murdoch, which opened the way for the semi-Australian to oust Felker within a fortnight. The deal cost Murdoch \$7.5 million. He sold out in 1986 for \$55 million.

By 1975, Siegel and Shuster had lost yet another protracted lawsuit to gain compensation for their creation and were barely surviving in low-paid jobs and in poor health. Shuster was forced to take work as a messenger in Manhattan, Siegel as a mail clerk in Los Angeles. Shuster, who later moved to the West Coast to live near Siegel, died in 1992.

When the story broke that DC Comics had been paid \$3.5 million by Warner Brothers for a new Superman film, Siegel publicised the two men's plight, and in 1978 DC Comics agreed to pay them \$20,000 a year each for life plus health insurance and to restore their credits as the creators of Superman. It was small compensation. Even as an old man Siegel admitted that the sight of a Superman comic book still made him feel physically sick.

Paul Gravett

Jerry Siegel, comic book writer, born October 17, 1914; died January 28, 1995

Letter

Michael J Smith writes: Eric Briault (obituary, January 20) was not only an enlightened educational administrator. He was equally successful as a schoolmaster, notably at Lattimer Upper School, where he taught geography. Many boys will also remember him for his athletic prowess.

On the cross-country run, Lattimer boys ran "round the river". These runs were supervised by Dr Briault, who gave no quarter to those half his age. But he demonstrated a rare tolerance to the asthmatic, halt and lame, and those who had "forgotten-my-kit-sit", who walked instead. We did it fully clothed, setting off earlier than our athletic brethren. The number 9 bus was an irresistible temptation, however, and the problem was to avoid being seen by Dr Briault and his runners. He must have known that he never overtook us, but nothing was ever said.

Birthdays

Jack Aspinwall, Conservative MP, 61; Robert Adkins MP, former Conservative minister, 50; William Burroughs, novelist, 82; Red Buttons, actor and comedian, 77; Lord Gibson, former chairman, National Trust, 80; Molly Hattersley, educationist, 65; Susan Hill, novelist and playwright, 54; Douglas Hogg MP, Minister of Agriculture, 51; Gen Sir Geoffrey Howlett, chairman, Leonard Cheshire Foundation, 86; Mark Jones, director, National Museums of Scotland, 43; Frank Muir, writer and broadcaster, 78; Wayne Noor, cricketer, 25; Charlotte Rampling, actress, 50; The Very Rev Colin Semper, Canon of Westminster, 88; Arthur Sulzberger, former publisher, The New York Times, 78; Sir Rodney Sweetnam, orthopaedic surgeon to the Queen, 83; Clark Tracey, drummer, 36.

Jerry Siegel

Flight of fantasy

FOR five years, from 1934 to 1939, writer Jerry Siegel, who has died aged 81, and artist Joe Shuster were sent rejection after rejection for their proposed newspaper strip Superman.

The all-American superhero, who was to eclipse every comic-book character ever to grace a front cover, finally found a home with the publisher of Action Comics in 1938. Shuster and Siegel promptly signed away the rights to their blue-tinted creation for \$130 — a decision they were to regret for the rest of their lives.

Fals since high school in Cleveland, Ohio, Siegel and Shuster lived intense imaginary lives, escaping into movies, science fiction and newspaper strips.

Siegel first conceived Superman in his fanzine Science Fiction No 3, January 1933, in a text story illustrated by Shuster about a vagrant transformed by a scientist's drug into an evil, mind-controlling warmonger.

Later that year, they reworked their Superman into a crime-fighting musclemans in T-shirt and trousers for the then emerging market of 10-cent comic books; but they were bitterly disappointed when their shoe-string publisher got cold feet and then went out of business.

But the idea would not go away. One sleepless summer night in 1934, in an adrenaline rush of ideas, Siegel dreamed up "a character like Samson, Hercules and all the strongmen I ever heard of rolled into one, only more so". The next day was spent with Shuster developing Superman's colourful scrotes costume and cape and his "human disguise". Siegel's own career ambition.

A physically perfect, super-powered alien from Krypton was pure adolescent wish-fulfillment. Shuster and Siegel were nervous kids, short-sighted and shy with girls — a lot like Clark

Kent, Superman's mild-mannered secret identity. "Superman" was masterful, athletic, handsome, with an adoring girlfriend, Lois Lane — everything his co-creators wanted to be. Their "superhero" tapped into a potent fantasy shared by



Creation of a superhero... the writer and the artist

many a teenage male. Despite repeated submissions, syndicates saw no potential in such an "immature" creation.

From 1935, Siegel and Shuster began selling other characters such as Dr Occult and Slam Bradley to the new comic books and finally in 1939, at the insistence of McCune Syndicate's Sheldon Mayer, DC Comic editor Vincent Sullivan took a chance on Superman, putting him in the lead slot and on the frontcover of a new

title, Action Comics. Mayer recalled: "Jerry Siegel was right for comic books, only nobody knew it. The reader response was immediate."

At first, Siegel involved Superman in down-to-earth morality plays, tackling corrupt bosses and rescuing orphans, but he was soon battling the Nazis and Japs with enchanted powers. By 1941, The Man Of Steel had his own newspaper strip and a million-selling comic book, a readers' club, The Superman Of America, a radio show, masses of merchandise, 17 cartoons and later live movie serials.

Siegel and Shuster did enjoy some financial rewards from this success, but having relinquished all rights to their creation, these were not significant. In 1948, they lost a lawsuit to regain the copyright to Superman and were dismissed by the publishers.

Their next collaboration, a crime-fighting clown called Funnyman, failed to catch on and the team split up. Siegel went to write pulp fiction, horror and romance comics and briefly returned to writing Superman in the early sixties. At the height of the Batman craze, he adopted a camp style for The Mighty Crusader

and scripted "The Spider" for the British weekly comic, Lion. His first and only typewriter, a 1938 Royal, was recently offered for sale at \$63,000.

By 1975, Siegel and Shuster had lost yet another protracted lawsuit to gain compensation for their creation and were barely surviving in low-paid jobs and in poor health. Shuster was forced to take work as a messenger in Manhattan, Siegel as a mail clerk in Los Angeles. Shuster, who later moved to the West Coast to live near Siegel, died in 1992.

When the story broke that DC Comics had been paid \$3.5 million by Warner Brothers for a new Superman film, Siegel publicised the two men's plight, and in 1978 DC Comics agreed to pay them \$20,000 a year each for life plus health insurance and to restore their credits as the creators of Superman. It was small compensation. Even as an old man Siegel admitted that the sight of a Superman comic book still made him feel physically sick.

Paul Gravett

Jerry Siegel, comic book writer, born October 17, 1914; died January 28, 1995

Nigel Fountain

Shirley Carter Burden, patrician, born August 25, 1941; died January 23, 1996

USE WILL POWER TO CHEAT DEATH

We do. Kidney research saves lives. So do legacies.

NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH FUND

3 Arden Court, Stables Road, Harington, Northampton NN16 9DQ

Telephone 01490 454288

Registered Charity No. 233828

Death Notices

NEUBURG, Victor E "Toby", untimely on January 28th, Funeral on 8 February at St. Peter's Church, Harington, Northampton. Donations to the British Diabetic Association, 250 High Street, London W1C 2JL. "Treat and prevent now in every phase".

IF to place your announcement telephone 0171 611 9000

Jackdaw



Holy hunters

Q. IS IT possible for a member of the clergy to enjoy hunting?

A. Some years ago the then Rector of Steep le Bumpstead revealed on television that he wore hunting gear under his robes on Sundays so that he could hunt between services. — Reverend Denis Shaw.

A. Blood sport is mentioned once in the Bible, at Genesis 49:5, where Jacob refers to the cruelty of "cripping bulls for sport". Obviously, some blood sports are crueler than others, but all contain some element of cruelty. Therefore it would seem that blood

Jackdaw

sports generally would be inconsistent with the Christian lifestyle. — L Taylor.

A. Is there a difference between the clergy and the laity hunting? Both are equally Christian, and stewards of God's creation. We both hunt to enjoy the excitement of riding dangerously across country that would not otherwise be available to us. The hounds hunt to follow their instinct to chase and kill and eat the fox... I see no reason why members of the clergy should not enjoy hunting as do the laity. Remember also that the hunting fraternity is a major contributor to the conservation of the countryside and its wildlife, which is something that concerns us all. — Canon William G Gibbs.

Country ethics from the problem page of The Church Times.

Going native

MANY OF the great practitioners of journalism who have written for the British or American press have been evasive about their native

John Mosely

Ear for detail

JOHN MOSELY, who has died aged 62 in an aircraft accident in the United States, was a pioneer of stereophonic sound. He became fascinated by the way it could solidify our aural impression of recorded music while still at Clifton College and a year into its development some way when we collaborated in 1967 on a recording of music by

Thomas Tomkins. Having written a book about Tomkins, I wished to clarify for readers and listeners the actual sound of antiphonal choirs, which was monaurally impossible. John achieved a splendid stereo balance within the spacious acoustic of St Bart's, Smithfield. We stayed up all night editing tapes which he then took to New York.

Despite the patronising attitudes of recording industry colleagues John knew that he had in his hand luggage something fabulous and far-reaching. He also knew that the music could not then be issued on disc since no agreement had yet been reached on methods of cutting. Undeterred, he arranged for his product to be published as stereo tapes. He travelled widely extending his expertise in recording and classical music to include business administration and international finance. Producing impressive records of Bouli Barbivroski and Scherchen he also dealt almost simulta-

neously with Louis Armstrong, Charles Amour and later Elton John. His energy was phenomenal, but he never neglected family and friends, and enjoyed life to the full. In England, he was in charge of recording and technical development for Fye Records and in the US for Night Technologies. In Japan, he modified Sansul's four-channel system into the five channels used in the 1974 film of Tommy. When he moved to Hollywood his 16-Di improvement to 70mm recorded sound won him an Oscar in 1985. On achieving his goals and his laurels, John character-

istically moved on to other projects. He brought me in as musical adviser last year on a hair-raising version of Messiah — for which he designed special equipment — featuring the Mormon Tabernacle choir, his favourite Ebenezer Prout orchestra and a British conductor and soloists. He is survived by his wife Myra, their two daughters and first marriage.

Denis Stevens

John Mosely, recording expert and entrepreneur, born March 8, 1933; died October 7, 1995

Boys' zone

A YEAR ago I would have agreed about receiving a handwritten letter in preference to a fax or e-mail. Today, however, with both my sons away at university, I'm thrilled that they communicate more often — and more enjoyably — since we've joined the Internet. They send and receive messages several times a week, some short and others glowingly long and rambling. I can print off anything we wish to keep and thus have the best of both worlds. And this from someone who has taken years to become used to computers! The prize-winning letter in this month's Good Housekeeping, written by Gillian Gould. Her prize is a decidedly low-tech luxury pen set.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-718 4366; Jackdaw, The Chairman, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Dan Glaister

Heavenly body

DEAR Jewel, I have a rather strange tale to relate. It all began two weeks ago in my small ranch in a remote part of Nebraska. One evening I was eating dinner as usual when I heard a faint rumbling that grew louder



Crafty... Jack Magazine

السلامة

No let

Long-ter

Debate



No let-up in blood sacrifice



Will Hutton

WE HAVE been told so often for so long that lower inflation and labour market flexibility alone are the conditions for economic success that it has hardened into an unthinking mantra. But after nearly four years of a recovery characterised by just that low inflation and the growth of contractualised, "flexible work", the performance of the "real" economy remains disappointing.

British growth over the last six months has dropped to a miserable 1.5 per cent on an annualised basis. Moreover, any pick-up promises to depend not on exports and investment — but on our old friend the British consumer. It all looks painfully familiar. There is no greater testimony to the enfeeblement of the British economy than Britain's export performance. The pound, apart from the plunge around the 1976 International Monetary Fund crisis, has not been so cheap for 20 years — as the chart below, monitoring Britain's relative unit labour costs, demonstrates.

North Sea oil and high interest rates helped raise sterling in 1980, but after oscillating at a still high level during the mid-to-late-1980s, it has slid a good 20 per cent over the past three years alone. On past evidence you might have expected this to have generated an export surge, but that there has been little sign. In 1984 British manufactur-

ing exports, according to OECD data supplied by Goldmans Sachs' Gavin Davies, grew by 11 per cent in line with the 11 per cent growth of British export markets.

That was disappointing enough given the devaluation — a storm warning that British exporters were taking advantage of a more competitive pound not to increase export volumes, but to increase prices and margins.

Last year the poor performance on record. But manufacturing investment only accounts for around 13 per cent of gross domestic fixed capital formation — and compared to the rest it stands as a beacon of light.

INVESTMENT in housing, building, construction, distribution, business services, education, health, transport, and agriculture is either stagnating or — as in the public sector — in headline decline. This is happening despite low inflation and labour market flexibility — and well into an economic recovery. Investment overall is likely to grow only fractionally if at all over this year.

Thus, as the Purchasing Managers' Index reports that manufacturing profit margins fell to a three-year low in January, we are left with government spending and the consumer charges will offset most of the tax-cutting largesse.

Last week's monthly monetary minutes for December between the Chancellor and Governor again wearily report a discussion, saying the Bundesbank, in which the real economy is looked at almost entirely through the prism of potential inflationary pressure — like drums gutting yet more sacrificial victims however repeatedly the ceremony falls.

Rather than challenge these curious priorities, the country takes up its inglorious flag waving laced with Schadenfreude at so-called German failures. Nothing changes.

Britain's chief markets have been slowing down. Nor is there any great hope that investment will propel recovery.

Manufacturing investment this year is likely to rise between 5 or 6 per cent, but given the jump in profit margins, the already long duration of the upturn and strength of manufacturers' current balance sheets again this is one of the weakest performances on record. But manufacturing investment only accounts for around 13 per cent of gross domestic fixed capital formation — and compared to the rest it stands as a beacon of light.

INVESTMENT in housing, building, construction, distribution, business services, education, health, transport, and agriculture is either stagnating or — as in the public sector — in headline decline. This is happening despite low inflation and labour market flexibility — and well into an economic recovery. Investment overall is likely to grow only fractionally if at all over this year.

Thus, as the Purchasing Managers' Index reports that manufacturing profit margins fell to a three-year low in January, we are left with government spending and the consumer charges will offset most of the tax-cutting largesse.

Last week's monthly monetary minutes for December between the Chancellor and Governor again wearily report a discussion, saying the Bundesbank, in which the real economy is looked at almost entirely through the prism of potential inflationary pressure — like drums gutting yet more sacrificial victims however repeatedly the ceremony falls.

Rather than challenge these curious priorities, the country takes up its inglorious flag waving laced with Schadenfreude at so-called German failures. Nothing changes.

ster, as the final props on which to base hopes that the growth rate will accelerate.

Start with government spending. In 1995-97 the Government is budgeting for current spending to rise by 0.3 per cent in real terms — an implausibly low increase which nevertheless it has to achieve to have any hope of "prudent" tax cuts in the November Budget.

Indeed the pressure to control government spending is even more intense because the impact of this year's growth slow down will be to depress tax revenues in 1996-97 — so that a growing number of forecasters are now saying that the public sector borrowing requirement in 1996-97 will only fall marginally compared with this year's expected £28 billion.

Any relaxation of the spending totals will imply even less for those already in a political bind over vital tax-cuts — so expect little impetus from this quarter.

Which leaves the consumer, still not borrowing for house purchase and lacking confidence, but to be so armed with tax cuts and electricity rebates that he and she will end the mini-downturn.

In fact, as Peter Warburton of Flemings points out, rising council tax bills and public sector charges will offset most of the tax-cutting largesse.

Last week's monthly monetary minutes for December between the Chancellor and Governor again wearily report a discussion, saying the Bundesbank, in which the real economy is looked at almost entirely through the prism of potential inflationary pressure — like drums gutting yet more sacrificial victims however repeatedly the ceremony falls.

Rather than challenge these curious priorities, the country takes up its inglorious flag waving laced with Schadenfreude at so-called German failures. Nothing changes.

capitalism that Conservative propagandists claim has out-competed the Rhineland "stakeholder" model, which is supposedly rushing to emulate British success.

Yet the defunct German economy with its bankrupt system of corporatism and over-regulated financial system managed to increase exports in 1995 by 6.5 per cent — a better performance than Britain's.

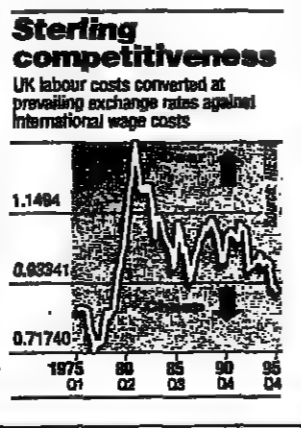
GERMANY'S markets, it is true, grew by 2.6 per cent, so that like Britain it lost relative ground; but its underperformance was 3.1 per cent against Britain's 4.9 per cent — and was forced upon it by a currency appreciating to new highs rather than falling to new lows.

Indeed if the Bundesbank had been less obsessed with achieving zero inflation last year by raising interest rates at excessive levels for too long, even the mark appreciation, export relapse and recession could have been averted — but it takes the strength of the stakeholder model to withstand such monetary excesses.

Yet Britain suffers from the same policy preoccupation with a much weaker underlying economy.

Last week's monthly monetary minutes for December between the Chancellor and Governor again wearily report a discussion, saying the Bundesbank, in which the real economy is looked at almost entirely through the prism of potential inflationary pressure — like drums gutting yet more sacrificial victims however repeatedly the ceremony falls.

Rather than challenge these curious priorities, the country takes up its inglorious flag waving laced with Schadenfreude at so-called German failures. Nothing changes.



Long-term jobless finally on the agenda

Debate

Richard Layard

AT LAST a serious debate has begun about preventing long-term unemployment. John Major is planning to put everyone who has been unemployed for over two years on work experience or training — in two pilot areas. Labour is more ambitious, with plans for anyone under 25 within six months of them becoming unemployed.

But can such policies make a real dent in unemployment? International comparisons made at the Centre for Economic Performance show they can. Countries can reduce unemployment if they pay benefits for shorter periods and use the savings to help the unemployed. It is better to use public money to generate activity, rather than subsidise inactivity.

But which is the best way to reduce unemployment? Policy design is crucial. It is not enough to park the long-term jobless in some spurious activity. Claimants desperately

need the kind of help that changes their prospects, not only their current situation. This means restoring their self-respect, allowing them to accumulate a valuable work record and offering permanent jobs. Training can help, but evaluations in many countries suggest it does not work for adults.

Job creation schemes do more good. But often, as in the UK's Community Programme in the 1980s, the pace of work is slow, and a record from such a scheme carries limited value when looking for another job.

The best way to help someone is to persuade a regular employer to give them a regular job slot. This would mean recruitment subsidies

becoming the centrepiece of "active" labour-market policy. The most obvious approach is to pay the employer the benefits which would otherwise have been paid to the unemployed; in return the employer pays the worker a normal wage.

But no such labour market policy will work unless there is a change of regime. It must be for all the unemployed, not only those who choose it.

That has been a key feature of the Swedish system for the last 25 years. There, benefits last for a year, after which anyone still unemployed is guaranteed the offer of a job lasting at least six months. This more than anything else explains why unemployment in Sweden averaged only 2

per cent through the seventies and the eighties. Five principles hold the key.

- People must be helped before they lose their attraction for employers.
- They should be employed as regular workers.
- The financial incentive to employers must be substantial, and weighted towards those hardest to place.
- Employers must monitor performance and provide written accounts to the Employment Service if permanent jobs are not offered.
- The employer cannot collect a subsidy if at the same time he is sacking workers.

How do Tory and Labour proposals line up with these principles? The Government only proposes to help people

already unemployed for over two years and to provide three months' work experience on benefit plus. That is too late and too little.

Labour's plan comes nearer the mark. For people under 25 it kicks in after six months unemployment. It includes four types of help: recruitment subsidies, full-time education, and work on benefit-plus for a voluntary organisation or an Environmental Task force.

The tragedy is that for so long we have paid people for inactivity and misery, rather than using the money to get them into work. At last politicians are willing to change it.

Professor Richard Layard is Director of the Centre for Economic Performance at LSE.

Indicators

TODAY — GERMANY: Manufacturing orders (West, in weeks) (Dec).
UK: Provisional Q4 (Jan).
FR: CGT Week of protests.

TOMORROW — US: Industrial production (Dec).

WEDNESDAY — US: Trade (Nov).

Tourist rates — bank sells

Australia 1.96	France 7.50	Italy 2.350	Singapore 2.11
Austria 15.30	Germany 2.20	Malta 0.5425	S Africa 5.38
Belgium 45.00	Greece 388.00	Netherlands 2.47	Spain 184.00
Canada 2.025	H Kong 11.53	N Zealand 2.21	Sweden 10.47
Cyprus 0.7025	India 55.35	Norway 9.65	Switzerland 1.78
Denmark 8.52	Ireland 0.85	Portugal 228.00	Turkey 91.231
Finland 6.86	Israel 4.75	S Arabia 5.64	USA 1.4825

Mexico's woes dwarfed by those facing Russia

Commentary

Larry Elliott in Davos

THIS time last year the talk at the World Economic Forum was of how Mexico had slid from being the darling of the West to the brink of bankruptcy in six short months.

Twelve months later, it's as if it was all a bad dream. Neatly skating over the fact that the austerity programme meant that gross domestic product was almost 10 per cent lower in the third quarter of 1995 than a year earlier, President Zedillo told businessmen the current account — the root cause of the original problem — was back in the black and unemployment had peaked.

He stressed that Mexico was trying to strengthen its political structures as well as its economy. It was in stark contrast with the impression left by the Russians a few hours later. Here, if ever there was one, was a classic tale of two economies.

To some in the West, the widespread corruption, the power of the mafia and the lack of any formal legal structure within which business can operate with any confidence have vindicated the cautious approach adopted since the collapse of communism at the end of the 1980s.

However, not everyone sees it like that. Professor Jeffrey Sachs, the Harvard professor who drew up a blueprint for Russia's transition from a command to a market economy is scathing about the way in which the Group of Seven industrial nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have dithered and delayed.

The IMF has now agreed a \$3 billion package of loans, but Professor Sachs believes the money has come four years too

late. "The West should have been at least as generous in 1992, when there were some real liberals around, as it is prepared to be now. But it held back. There was very little western involvement in 1992, when a presidential election year in the US and nobody wanted to think about giving any money."

There are some who are sceptical about parts of this analysis. Anatoly Chubais, the reformer recently sacked by Mr Yeltsin, argues that Professor Sachs' policy of selling off state industries en masse is at least partly responsible for the endemic corruption that has followed.

Adair Turner, who worked as a consultant in Russia before becoming director-general of the CBI, believes that it is not just the lack of money but the fact that there was only the thinnest of topsoil in which capitalism could grow. Russia may be like Brazil in

Here, if ever there was one, was a classic tale of two economies

the 1950s and 1960s, Mr Turner says, a country with huge potential but able only to realise it very slowly.

That said, however, Professor Sachs has a point. The West showed a distinct lack of vision back in 1991 and 1992, sending Mr Gorbachev away empty handed from the London G7 summit in 1991 and being equally parsimonious a year later in Munich. Yet it was obvious that Russia urgently needed financial help, a modern equivalent of the Marshall Plan to underpin and prevent the country sliding back into its bad old ways.

Unfortunately, the warnings were not heeded. Unlike Mexico, Russia does not have a 2,000 mile border with the United States. Wall Street is not up to its neck in worthless Russian junk bonds and there is no fear that a collapse will trigger a chain reaction in neighbouring economies.

The West, prodded by the Americans, reacted swiftly to the Mexican crisis, rustling up \$50 billion within a matter of weeks. In the event, only about half the money was actually been drawn down by the Mexican government, but the support helped to restore confidence and bought Mr Zedillo time.

But if Mexico has problems, they are dwarfed by those in Russia, where since the slump started in 1992, industrial production has dropped by 50 per cent, investment is only a third of its previous level, living standards have fallen by 28 per cent, the teachers have rejected the miners on strike, there is no money to pay state pensions, 37 million people are not earning enough to support themselves and their families, and the death toll from organised crime in the last year has been greater than total Russian losses in Afghanistan.

Little wonder that a growing number of people now look back with nostalgia on communist rule. Who can blame them? Certainly not the leaders of the West, who have sat back and watched it happen.

American dream merely Europe's cold comfort

Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

AS THESE years go by it is attempting to believe — at least for those who have never been further west than the Scilly Isles — to wonder whether the US actually exists, or whether it is simply a reflection of what is wrong with the European economies at any particular time.

Thirty years ago, it was the sheer abundance of material goods that was supposedly the most striking

feature of this transatlantic neverland. Remember American breakfasts? Karmour had it that Brother Tank started the day with an enormous meal of steak, fried onions and lots of things drenched in syrup.

Today, with the lack of jobs the number one preoccupation in Europe, it is America's success in finding gainful employment for all that grabs our attention. You may have noticed the scene in the film *The Player*, in which a waiter is summoned to transfer water from its present container (a wine glass) to the correct vessel (a water glass).

Rather than react in the

manner of a British waiter ("Do what?"), the young man hastens to comply. No longer do we yearn for American breakfasts; rather, we salivate over the mythical "personal services" apparently available to the US consumer, from valet parking to therapy for pets. It is not so much that we wish to have such services ourselves, rather that they give the lie to the repeated claim that "in the future" there will be little demand for the type of unskilled employee represented by the water waiter.

This is all very heartening. Assuming that America really does exist.

Nokia Digital Security. Cellphones Direct Prices!

LIMITED OFFER
£9.99
INC. VAT
FREE CONNECTION TO VODAFONE PERSONAL WORLD



Trust Cellphones Direct to make a world of difference to digital phone prices. With FREE connection to the Vodafone Personal World Tariff, so you can use the phone throughout the UK, most of Europe and beyond on the GSM international network. With digital call clarity and absolute confidentiality.

Simply phone us with your credit card details to receive your phone plus valuable extras within 4 working days.

FREE CONNECTION TO VODAFONE PERSONAL WORLD

Monthly Rental	£17.53 (£15 + VAT)
Peak Rate Calls	42p per min (35p + VAT)
Off Peak Calls	18p per min (15p + VAT)

Standard call rates at 7:00 PM for the Vodafone Personal World tariff are: Daytime (08:00-19:00) 42p per min (35p + VAT), Evening (19:00-23:00) 42p per min (35p + VAT), Night (23:00-08:00) 18p per min (15p + VAT). All rates include a 30 second connection charge. All rates are subject to change without notice. VAT is included in all prices. © Nokia 1995. Nokia and GSM are trademarks of Nokia Corporation.

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND
Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.

Cellphones Direct

ORDER NOW FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREephone 0500 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 5PM WEEKENDS 9AM TO 5PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND YOUR IDENTIFICATION READY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REF 2888. CREDIT CARDS ARE SUBJECT TO ACCEPTANCE BY OUR BANKS. Offer subject to status and a standard service contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd, 115 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LN. Full written details and terms and conditions of the offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 2965222.

RUGBY UNION: THE FIVE NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP



Howley hurrah... the Wales scrum-half, who crowned an assured debut with a burrowing late try, plays the ball as Johnson and Bayfield are kept at bay PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

England 21, Wales 15

Rowell needs to boldly go

Robert Armstrong at Twickenham

ENGLAND have registered a new patient in Mogdon rugby which could paralyse Scotland's hopes of winning the Five Nations Championship...

It is hard to escape the conclusion that Rowell needs to enlist a specialist coach to turn some of his forwards into bolder footballers...

No doubt England felt unable to get into top gear because, for the second game running, they could not remedy their shortcomings in the line-out...

he showed in setting up Wales's fifth-minute try by Taylor. "I asked the referee if we had signalled for posts and he said no..."

and Guscott made his own luck after half-time with a flying charge-down of Justin Thomas's clearing kick...

step, he showed the classic fly-half's ability to think on his feet and keep the opposition guessing...

Scotland 19, France 14

Scots thrive on doing it by halves

Ian Mallin at Murrayfield

FRANCE seem to bring the best out of Scotland. The Auld Alliance has produced three memorable internationals in the past 12 months...

Two late penalties enabled Lacroix to beat Didier Camberbero's France point-scoring record of 354...

At one point we were trying to entertain rather than to balance the game...

One bone-jarring tackle by Hastings on Arwel Benzani in the second half was similar to that of his brother Gavin...

The French were generally disappointing. One try in two matches, and this from Benzani after a drive from a line-out...

Clarke wheels out excuses for a dull day

Richard Williams with a damning verdict on a match that England allowed to die

ONE could have written Arwel Thomas's life story during the time the ball spent stuck between the boots of England's back-row men on Saturday...

"If the scrum is wheeled all the time," said Ben Clarke, the pack leader...

Wales forward Matt Dawson waited and dummed behind a static scrum...

attempts to make progress. "I was disappointed with some of our discipline..."

in order to counter the visitors' disruptive method. Rowell, though generous in his commendation of the Welsh...

Both moves also featured Townsend. Upright in attack and with a shimmering side-

NatWest Interest Rates. National Westminster Bank announces the following interest rates, effective from 5th February 1996. Table with columns for Savings, Premium Reserve, and First Reserve, and rows for various deposit amounts and terms.

game plan, the England manager said: "Not as far as I'm concerned, no." Still, it served his side's purpose...

Jeremy Alexander sees a Coltish headline-maker come back to earth with a bang. Even Sampson feels the loneliness of an England wing against Wales, the Leeds boy was at the RFU's centre for schools and youth...

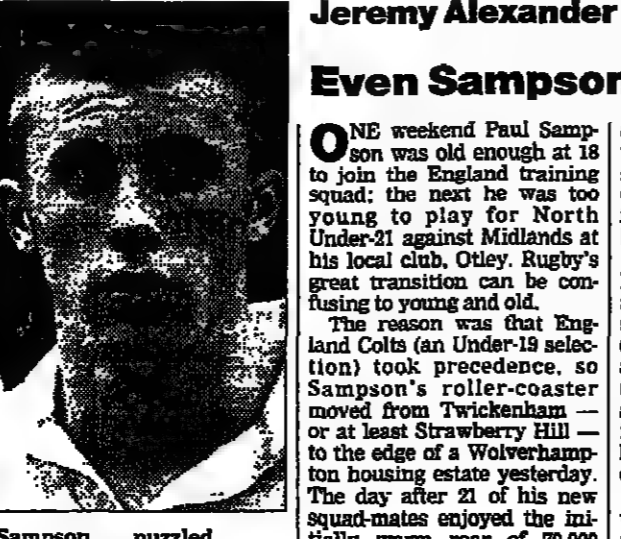
Underwood's debut spoiled

THOUGH Newcastle Gooson called on more old internationals than the BBC's panel of experts...

Tony Underwood looked sharp on his debut; Gary Armstrong enjoyed a lively tussle with Derrick Patterson...



In control... Townsend rides a French tackle IAN WALDIE



Sampson... puzzled

with overlap and scissors, to set up a thrilling try. The Colts, building against the divisions towards four internationals, had viewed England's display. Sampson was puzzled at "what they were trying to do"...

For Sampson, it is one thing after another now in the learning curve: indoor athletics after rugby, and Chaucer and Hamlet after Carling, with A levels in the offing.

McRae at New... Southwell... Various vertical text elements and advertisements on the right edge of the page.

Rugby League

Challenge Cup, fourth round: Castleford 16, St Helens 58

McRae in raptures at Newlove affair

SHAUN McRAE could be forgiven a satisfied smile after watching his new charges post an impressive cup win at Castleford yesterday.

included in their 10-try haul was an impressive hat-trick by their wild-card signing Paul Newlove.

athletes in the game and Paul Newlove showed today that he stands comparison with them.

Leeds leave it late at Swinton

LEEDS, Silk Cut Challenge Cup runners-up for the past two seasons, had Graham Horwood and Alan Tait to thank for a late rally at Swinton that saw them home 27-22 and on course for a third Wembley final.

entertain Wakefield, 34-18 winners at Carlisle. Hull overpowered Hunslet 52-18 but the Second Division champions Hull KR went down 24-0 to Leigh.

Castleford's response came through tries from Smith, Goddard and Sampson, but in the second half St Helens without several determined assaults on their line before fashioning further tries.

Hockey

Hat-trick gets Conway off on the right foot for Teddington

NICK CONWAY made the perfect debut for Teddington on Saturday, scoring a hat-trick to help the league champions to a 4-1 win over Firebrands and a place in the HA Cup quarter-finals.

opened up a five-point gap over the bottom six clubs, all of whom are booked to go down this winter.

title contenders also ended in a draw when Guildford recovered from being 2-0 down in two minutes and 3-0 behind to level two minutes from time.

winners, Jon Molloy snatching four in a 9-0 win over St Albans, and Havant beat Gymkhana 7-1.

Basketball

Riders only semi-delirious at Waldron's return

GENE WALDRON made an entrance on his return to the Leicester Riders on Saturday, but he fell short yesterday in a dramatic last act, and in Budweiser League terms, defeat to the Chester Jets represents a tragedy.

sent the game into overtime, except that the final buzzer had already sounded.

in Saturday's 83-58 win over the Newcastle Comets. Coming off the bench with the Riders 14-2 down, he had an assist with his first touch of the ball and a three-pointer with the next.

Racing

Oats stays on for the Hennessy

MASTER OATS and Monsieur Le Cure, the British challengers in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, will remain in Ireland this week in the hope that the weather relents and yesterday's abandoned Leopardstown meeting can be staged next Sunday.

The rescheduling of the race for next weekend will not affect Jodan, who was found to be coughing on Friday and did not make the trip. He will be out of action for at least a week.

The winner looks like a hat rack and cannot be the easiest horse to train, but Nicky Henderson now intends to spend him for the Racing Post Chase at Kempton in which he was brought down last year by none other than One Man.

Champion Hurdle prospects. Atours, who finished seventh in the Champion last season, is very useful without being absolutely top class and David Elsworth may try him in blinkers in the Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton - his next intended race.

Newton Abbot runners and riders with form guide

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and odds. Includes races 2.20, 2.50, 3.20, 3.50, 4.00, 4.30, 4.45, 4.55, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 5.55, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 6.55, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 7.55, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 8.55, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 9.55, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 10.55, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 11.55, 12.00.

Southwell (All-weather Flat)

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and odds. Includes races 1.30, 2.00, 2.30, 3.00, 3.30, 4.00, 4.30, 4.45, 4.55, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 5.55, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 6.55, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 7.55, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 8.55, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 9.55, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 10.55, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 11.55, 12.00.

3.00 NEWTON ABBOT HANDICAP (11) 11yo 5f 11.00

Table with columns for horse name, jockey, and odds. Includes horses like 1. 11-11-11, 2. 11-11-11, 3. 11-11-11, 4. 11-11-11, 5. 11-11-11, 6. 11-11-11, 7. 11-11-11, 8. 11-11-11, 9. 11-11-11, 10. 11-11-11, 11. 11-11-11, 12. 11-11-11.

4.00 NEWTON ABBOT HANDICAP (11) 11yo 5f 11.00

Table with columns for horse name, jockey, and odds. Includes horses like 1. 11-11-11, 2. 11-11-11, 3. 11-11-11, 4. 11-11-11, 5. 11-11-11, 6. 11-11-11, 7. 11-11-11, 8. 11-11-11, 9. 11-11-11, 10. 11-11-11, 11. 11-11-11, 12. 11-11-11.

5.00 NEWTON ABBOT HANDICAP (11) 11yo 5f 11.00

Table with columns for horse name, jockey, and odds. Includes horses like 1. 11-11-11, 2. 11-11-11, 3. 11-11-11, 4. 11-11-11, 5. 11-11-11, 6. 11-11-11, 7. 11-11-11, 8. 11-11-11, 9. 11-11-11, 10. 11-11-11, 11. 11-11-11, 12. 11-11-11.



Centre parting... Paul Newlove crashes through to help inflict a record home defeat on Castleford

Snooker

Welsh omens good

MARK WILLIAMS became the first Welshman to capture a world-ranking title since Doug Mountjoy won the UK Championship and Mercantile Classic back-to-back seven years ago.

Williams beat the world No. 4 John Parrott 9-3 to win the Welsh Open in front of a full house at the Newport Centre on Saturday evening.

Parrott, winner of the Thailand Classic in October, was a warm favourite for his second major title of the season but seldom showed his best form.

Parrott took some of the sting out of the defeat by travelling down the M4 to beat Malta's Tony Drago 6-5 to reach the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley.

The opening match of the competition provided another encouraging portent for Welsh snooker when Matthew Stevens, an 18-year-old from Carmarthen, beat his mentor Terry Griffiths 5-3.

Along with Ray Reardon, who now confines himself to the club exhibition circuit, and Mountjoy, who last week accepted a two-year contract as resident coach in the United Arab Emirates, Griffiths made Wales a potent force in the late Seventies and early Eighties.

Yesterday he led 3-2 but he is making more mistakes these days, none more damaging than when he failed to clear when obtaining the snooker he needed in the seventh. Stevens scrambled this crucial 39-minute frame on the pink and in the next, starting with an unusual three-cushion double, cleared from yellow to pink for victory.

"It's never easy to win first time out in an arena like this but it took a bit of pressure off playing someone I knew so well," said Stevens.

RACELINE logo and contact information for Southwell and Newton Abbot.

Soccer

Premiership: Wimbledon 2, Man Utd 4

Dignified Cantona's state visit

Commentary

David Lacey

ONE year, nine days and a considerable yardage of column inches after his assault on a Crystal Palace supporter...

The truth of the matter is that Cantona's kung-fu attack on an abusive Palace fan was yesterday's news long before his first reappearance at Selhurst...

As to the match, Cantona gave another of those detached, supersonic performances which have left some wondering if his determination not to become involved in more controversy has reduced his effectiveness...

Yes, Cantona is a different player, but United are a different team. The mood has changed. Ince and Hughes have gone. These days the football does more work than the eye itself...

Aston Villa 3, Leeds United 0

Brolin out with the washing

Martin Thorpe

IT DEPENDS where you are coming from. Leeds are in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals the FA Cup fourth round and in touch with a UEFA Cup place...

Leeds' fortune of failure comes from not having a chance of the league title this season, as recent Elland Road tradition expects a decent challenge at least...

Here nine players were missing through injury, suspension or that downside of the foreign invasion...

United's general demeanour that night and especially the cool outlook of Cantona.

On Saturday the Frenchman showed just why he is unlikely to become embroiled again with opponents or spectators.

He is not shirking tackles and is still capable of sticking in a Gallic foot to nick the ball, but his mastery of the art of positional play has never been seen to better effect.

With Cantona, United could now be said to have the best of both worlds. Giggs, not he, is the team's focal point but the Frenchman's powers of deception and the runs (often no more than strolls) with which he drags defenders out of position are helping to make the young Welshman an even greater influence.

If Cantona attacks anyone it will probably be Cole. French exasperation at Cole's failure to understand what is going on around him is growing.

Cantona's second goal ended Wimbledon's second attempt to force their way back into a game which had looked beyond them once Perry headed into his own net.

It was only in the second half of the final that South Africa began to approach that level of intensity against a Tunisia side not strong enough to dominate the match but wily enough to make winning difficult.

Not that Alan Ball and his Manchester City team would be sure of a welcome anyway, given their late-night high jinks that saw them thrown out of a swish Hampshire hotel prior to last week's draw at Southampton.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

It was only in the second half of the final that South Africa began to approach that level of intensity against a Tunisia side not strong enough to dominate the match but wily enough to make winning difficult.

Not that Alan Ball and his Manchester City team would be sure of a welcome anyway, given their late-night high jinks that saw them thrown out of a swish Hampshire hotel prior to last week's draw at Southampton.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"



Peacock preens... the midfielder fastens on to a through-ball and with Walsh slow to come off his line puts Chelsea 5-0 ahead with the last goal of a hat-trick against Middlesbrough at Stamford Bridge yesterday

African Nations' Cup final: South Africa 2, Tunisia 0

Nelson's biggest victory

John Perlmann in Johannesburg on a win owing something to prayer and a president

NELSON MANDELA would never say as much but South Africa's victory on Saturday surely gave him more pleasure than any of the other sporting triumphs that he has presided over and helped to inspire.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

It was only in the second half of the final that South Africa began to approach that level of intensity against a Tunisia side not strong enough to dominate the match but wily enough to make winning difficult.

Not that Alan Ball and his Manchester City team would be sure of a welcome anyway, given their late-night high jinks that saw them thrown out of a swish Hampshire hotel prior to last week's draw at Southampton.

Manchester City 2, Queens Park Rangers 0

Phillips has spark

Mark Redding

HE IS still down at the end of the Premiership's lonely street but the Heatbreak Hero of the First Division is a lot less likely to be opening its door.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

Blackburn Rovers 3, Bolton Wanderers 1

Shearer maintains high rate of return on goal standard

Don Best

AS BLACKBURN left the field to the raucous strains of Stumpy, The Best, Alan Shearer, the striker for whom the Tine Turner hit might have been written, acknowledged the reception for his fourth Premiership hat-trick of the season, collected yet another match ball and said he might give it to his sister.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

Liverpool 0, Tottenham Hotspur 0

Multi-millions of talent yield zero net return

Cynthia Bartzman

LIVERPOOL's challenge to Newcastle, which had taken off after Christmas with the acceleration of Steve Bennett's home-made rocket, floated gently to earth yesterday, leaving Roy Evans's side 11 points adrift of the Premiership leaders and two points behind Manchester United.

Star-chasers Collymore and Armstrong have 67 goals between them this season, but Socha's Law ensured that £25 million worth of strikers could not give the watching England coach Terry Venables a single goal, not even when Rush and Rosenzweig appeared just before the end.

It is an indication of the quality of the performance when I say I am disappointed to come away from Anfield with only a draw," said the Tottenham manager.

Indeed it took Liverpool 25 minutes to come to grips with a Tottenham side playing to those orders. The pace was hot, the shooting prolific and the defending superb.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

Arsenal 1, Coventry City 1

Rioch upbeat

Russell Thomas

IT IS just as well that Bruce Rioch believes in the power of positive thinking, after a week that cast enough negative vibes to disturb the most self-confident of managers.

With the acting captain Ian Wright for once failing to set a scoring example, Arsenal appear to be faced by a leadership crisis both on and off the pitch. But Rioch does not subscribe to this gloomy notion.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

First Division: Charlton 0, Crystal Palace 0

Palace pressed

Paul Weaver

CRYSTAL PALACE have suffered one defeat in 11 games, but working for their chairman Ron Unwin appears to be as much fun as a Jim Davidson cabaret.

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

At the start of the tournament most fans likewise did not know what the team were capable of. And when the players look over the videotape of the 3-0 semi-final win over Ghana last Wednesday many will pinch themselves and say: "Was that really us?"

Gillespie wide a

Handwritten signature or text at the bottom of the page.

One more challenge for Rowell, page 12
St Helens stroll to cup victory, page 13

South Africa claim another crown, page 14
Newcastle keep a firm grip, page 15

SportsGuardian

BRITISH WOMEN'S CAPTAIN REGAINS SHARP FORM AFTER 17 MONTHS IN LIMBO



Hangin' in there... Sally Gunnell, just back from pre-season training in South Africa, tries to keep Scotland's Melanie Neef in her sights

PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

Gunnell back on track for Atlanta

Stephen Bierley in Birmingham on the Olympic gold medallist's return to action

THE drum-roll of her feet thundering over the two-toned blue boards of the National Indoor Arena here was the prelude to piping Sally Gunnell back on board the good ship British Athletics yesterday. Until this weekend she had not raced on a British track for 17 months, and she was understandably apprehensive, notably because she had two rounds of the AAA 400 metres indoor championship to run on Saturday before yesterday's final.

The Olympic 400m hurdles champion had been unable to defend her world title in Gothenburg after damaging a heel early last year, an injury which eventually needed surgery. Nobody expected her to win here. Indeed, Scotland's Melanie Neef would have been deeply disappointed had she failed to take the title. Neef duly won in 52.50sec, beating her own Scottish record, yet Gunnell's time of 53.07 was beyond her expectations.

When Neef went through 200m in 24.74 Gunnell admitted to thinking, "Oh my God, I'm never going to hang on to that." But hang on she did. In 1993, when she won the world title in Stuttgart and set a world record in the process, she ran 53.98 indoors in her first competition of the year. So yesterday's time posted a neon-lit message from the dark of a British winter to her Olympic rivals: "I'm back."

A spur of bone digging into her Achilles tendon caused all of her problems last year, when she raced only twice. The right heel stiffened up a little on Saturday evening but all was fine yesterday. Suddenly the anxiety was sloughed off and the nerves calmed. "I was very tense on Saturday and worried about having to run three times this weekend," said Gunnell, who was afraid she might blow up under competitive pressure. The apprehension proved groundless; the confidence flowed back.

She will run again in Birmingham next weekend at what promises to be an excellent international meeting, and after further races in Moscow and Glasgow she will return to South Africa, where she has already had 3 1/2 weeks' training this year, as the preparation towards this summer's Olympic Games intensifies. Nobody, excepting presumably the man himself, quite knows whether Britain's other reigning Olympic track champion will set foot in Atlanta. Linford Christie appears to have lightning playing permanently around his head these days, and on Saturday a bolt from the blue laid him low in the 60m final.

There was an eerie feeling of *déjà vu* when Christie, as in Gothenburg last August, clutched his leg before the line, although on this occasion the shock was if anything a little sharper, for nobody had expected it. Equally, nobody can be certain whether this injury, effectively a groin strain, will turn out to be a small footnote to the season or a bloody great asterisk to signify the beginning of the end. Christie's swift recovery after the world championships, when he blasted to victory in Zurich and Belgium, precludes any real predictions. Time alone will tell, but as omens go these were distinctly unfavourable.

The AAA championships will be held in an aircraft hangar at RAF Cosford, which in its own quaint way seemed altogether more in keeping with this exceptionally low-key occasion. Even the presence of Gunnell and Christie, albeit the latter at the last minute, failed to rouse the good folk of Birmingham, or anywhere else.

Essentially these championships provide a platform for youth, and there were further encouraging performances from Nick Peacock, extending his own indoor record with 5.61m, and from Mark Eylon, who yesterday impressively won the 400m in 46.45. Ethiopia's Halle Gebrselassie knocked almost five seconds off the world indoor 3,000m record in Stuttgart yesterday, finishing in 7min 30.72sec. Last week he broke the world indoor 5,000m record. Britain's John Regis won the 300m in 20.77.

Premiership: Chelsea 5, Middlesbrough 0

Gullit at his best in feast for Chelsea

David Lacey

AT THE moment Chelsea could pass for prospective champions. Certainly they are passing the ball as well as Newcastle United or the immediate pursuers at the top of the Premiership.

Yesterday Glenn Hoddle's team overwhelmed a Middlesbrough side for whom defending has become a forgotten art. A 5-0 victory extended Chelsea's present run in the league to 12 matches with one defeat and lifted them to eighth place, where they will soon be thinking seriously of the UEFA Cup next season.

Middlesbrough, by contrast, have now lost seven league games out of eight and six in a row. On December 10 they lay fourth. Another month like this and fears of relegation will be more than an occasional shudder.

The pattern of the game was assured once Lee's strong sweeping passes from the back had begun to open up the flanks, sometimes for Phelan on the left but more significantly for Petrescu on the right. Middlesbrough found no answer to the timing of either the Romanian's passes or his forward runs.

A crop of injuries, the latest keeping Juninho out of the side, have contributed to Middlesbrough's decline. Yet Chelsea were without not only Hughes and Wise but DuBerry, their fast-maturing young centre-back who was also suspended.

In attack Middlesbrough were much as they had been before Juninho's arrival, with Barmby and Hignett, starting his first Premiership match for three months, supporting game occasionally worked well, with Fjortoft drawing some sharp saves from Hitchcock, the best shortly before half-time when the Chelsea goalkeeper turned a dipping 25-yard shot over the bar. But he replaced Fjortoft, hit a post in the 89th minute Middlesbrough's day was done.

The fact that Chelsea's first goal a minute before the half-hour should not have been allowed was scant consolation for Robson and his players. Yet Gullit was plainly offside and obstructing Walsh's view as the defence pushed out after Fjortoft had cleared Lee's corner. Peacock's mis-hit volley bounced past the unsuspecting goalkeeper, the goal stood, and was soon followed by two more.

After 31 minutes Spencer scurried through a gap to gather Petrescu's astutely timed through-pass and increase Chelsea's lead. In the 38th minute Gullit found the busy Spencer in space on the right and surged through for the return before setting up a second goal for Peacock when he might easily have scored himself.

Seven minutes into the second half a wonderful pass from Gullit once more exposed the Middlesbrough defence to Petrescu. This time he crossed for Furlong to control the ball with a knock of his left foot before scoring resoundingly with his right. Peacock's third, the result of more clever play by Petrescu and Spencer, followed two minutes later.

Middlesbrough faced the Premiership's heaviest defeat of the season but Chelsea were merciful thereafter. Not for a long time has the future at Stamford Bridge appeared so cloudless, on the pitch anyway.

Chelsea: Hitchcock; Sinclair Johnson, Peacock, Phelan, Spencer (Morris, 70, Purton). Middlesbrough: Walsh; Cox, Vickers, Pearson, Morris, O'Halloran, Liddle, Blackmore, Hignett, Barmby, Fjortoft (Wilkinson, 82). Referee: K. Cooper (Pontypool).

More soccer, page 14



Save money on your home insurance and spend a little extra on your home.

EAGLE STAR Direct 0800 333 800

Please see a free quote booklet. Sun-Sun. 9am-5pm. Not available in Northern Ireland.

Seve hints and Woosnam wins

A GOOD weekend for Europe's Ryder Cup morale saw Severiano Ballesteros hint at an imminent announcement that he will captain the team at Valderrama next year, and Ian Woosnam win his second tournament in a row, the Heineken Classic in Perth. Speaking at his home course of Pedraza on the Costa del Sol, the 38-year-old Spaniard, who makes no secret of his desire to succeed Bernard Gallacher, said: "Everyone has asked me to be captain. The Ryder Cup committee have talked to me about it. My problem is that I want to be a player, but if I am not playing well then I will not play, simple as that."

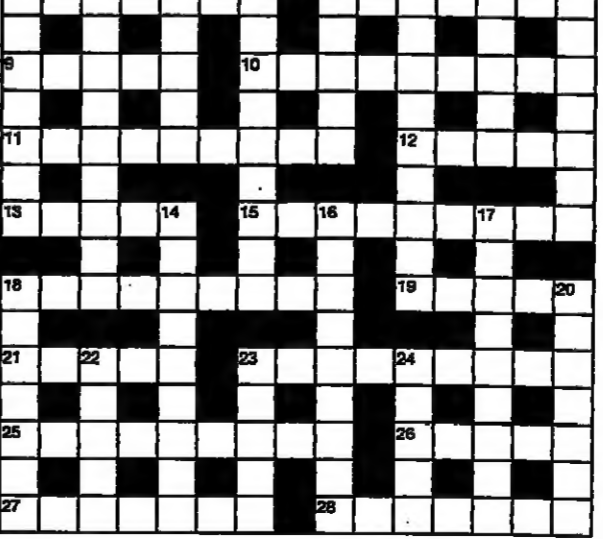
The Ryder Cup's last playing captain was Arnold Palmer in 1963, but Tom Kite, already named as Lanny Wadkins's successor for the United States, has expressed the same wish as Ballesteros. Off-course team managers could answer some of the problems. An occasional beer with friends, meanwhile, seems to be helping Woosnam forget his back trouble and recapture the form that brought him the 1991 US Masters title. Winner of last week's Johnnie Walker Classic in Singapore, the Welshman birdied the final hole at Perth yesterday to take the Heineken Classic by one stroke from Paul McGinley of Ireland and Jean Van de Velde of France. "The past two weeks make up for the last 12 months," said Woosnam, whose Singapore win was his first for 16 months. His final round of 72 was a mixed bag of four birdies, two bogeys and a double bogey, but good enough to clinch his 29th tournament win, worth (£90,000).

John Daly, who had shared the third-round lead with Woosnam, fell away with a 78. America's British Open champion led his driver in the bag throughout the four rounds.

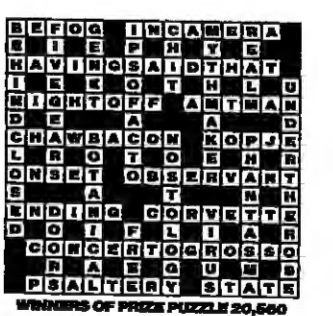
Women G2 page 10

Guardian Crossword No 20,567

Set by Crispa



- Across**
- 1 Disrupt a mountaineer's holiday? (5,2)
 - 5 The sound pamphlet is dogged? (7)
 - 9 Many long to find a hideaway (5)
 - 10 Share around aid as arranged, beaming (9)
 - 11 A story with point for members of the family (9)
 - 12 Appearing before the court with no list (5)
 - 13 Follow-workers formed into teams (5)
 - 15 A director wants modern furniture (9)
 - 18 Awfully inert characters put inside—in prison—get fit (5)
 - 19 Accommodation offered in the Forsythe Sage (2,3)
 - 21 Turner left two articles behind (5)
 - 23 Whisky and sack followed by non-alcoholic drink (9)
- Down**
- 1 Coarse material for which male beasts are responsible (7)
 - 2 Provided for those wanting a rise without making any great effort (9)
 - 3 Kan upset an officer, so got down (5)
 - 4 "Act a part?" a certain party scoffed (5)
 - 5 The main ups and downs (5)
 - 6 Serving a stew of meat and beans in reduced circumstances (5)
 - 7 The weapon of some backward tribal chief in Kenya (5)



WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 20,567
This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are Roy Swainman of Warrington, Cheshire, Ann Thompson of Charlton, Wiltshire, Tony Russell of London, W10, Jean Crickshank of Clifton, Bristol, and Timothy Key of Stranorlar, Leeds.

- 8 A medico holds on to a new benefactor (7)
- 14 All tremble, and that's smashing! (9)
- 16 Check a little guy's cleaning (9)
- 17 A game swimmer encompasses it with some strain (5)
- 18 Steps taken about two-thirds of all stately homes (7)
- 20 Putting people in the wrong situation causes real misery (7)
- 22 A piece of music played airmo stirs the composer (5)
- 23 Burn for public esteem when about fifty (5)
- 24 It's comic on such transport (5)

Solution tomorrow
© Published by Guardian Newspapers Limited at 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER, and at 184 Deansgate, Manchester M6G 2SR. Printed at the Guardian Press Centre, 2 Millharbour, London E14 3AQ. Trafalgar Park, Printers, Longbridge Road, Manchester M17 1SL. For-Ordnance GMB, Adversal-Roadside-Service, 1 828, Neu-Isenburg/Zepplenheim, Germany. Head Office: 1821 rue du Centre, 89000 - 89002, Roubaix, Cedex 1, France. For ad on behalf of the Guardian and Manchester Evening News PLC, 46, 46/7, Monday February 5 1996. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office ISSN 0251-0177. London: Telephone 0171-278 2332. Telex 811748 (Guard G). Fax 0171-837 2114. 0171-533 8342. Telephone telex 0171-811 9000. Manchester: Tel 0161-832 7300. Fax 0161-832 3311/334 9717. Tel sales 0161-834 8686

سكنا من الصل

End of beer
Ango
over
scho
failu
Steph
per tests
G
Austin
Inside